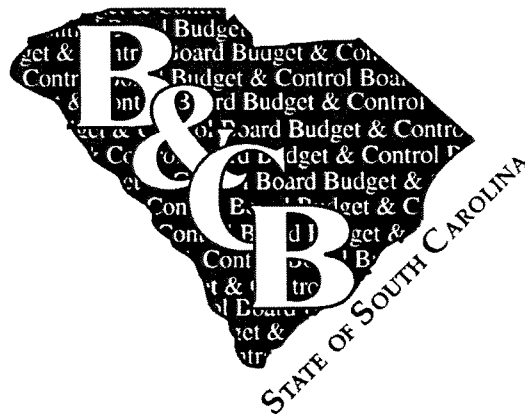


May 23, 2004

State Government News Summary



**Prepared by the Budget and Control Board
Office of the Executive Director**



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

For sale by state: 178 prime city acres

State Hospital tract likely to lure developers

By JEFF WILKINSON
Staff Writer

A proviso deep in the state's \$5.5 billion budget is sending developers and politicians scrambling to get ready for one of the most anticipated and significant land deals in Columbia history.

Gov. Mark Sanford and the General Assembly agreed this week to sell the 178-acre central campus of the State Hospital on Bull Street — property assessed at about \$32 million.

The tract is eight times larger than the old Central Corrections Institution property being developed on the Columbia Canal. It is the last and largest tract of urban land available in the capital city.

"We would like a shot at it, and so would our competitors," said Stewart Mungo, of Mungo Homes, one of the area's largest residential developers.

Several other prominent local developers didn't return telephone calls about the property. Insiders say the magnitude of the project and the payoff it represents have the region's biggest firms playing it quiet.

But Ike McLeese, president and chief executive of the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce, says the land is a hot commodity.

"Interest is very high," he said. "This is about the largest piece of property to come available in the urban area any time in the foreseeable future."

The race kicked off when Sanford announced he would like to see the huge tract and its roughly 50 buildings sold this year, with the proceeds going to help the state's ailing treasury. But the campus will not be an easy turn.

The oldest building on the campus, the Mills Building, is not up for sale, but its classic style should set the tone for the redevelopment, preservationists say.

Restoration of the historic Babcock Building, with its distinctive red cupola, is estimated at \$20 million alone. Other, newer buildings are filled with asbestos, which means developers would face an expensive removal process if they want to reuse the buildings.

"The problem with this property is it's not residential or commercial, it's both," Mungo said. "Very few people do both things well."

The cost — not only of the land, but also of demolition of newer buildings and the restoration of historic ones — would be prohibitive, which could limit the number of firms that could tackle redevelopment, he said.

Another question to be resolved is the demand for the property, he said.

"It's a lot of money, that's the biggest thing," he said. "And how deep is the market?"

The proviso also has city leaders ramping up to build zoning grids, historic overlays and design guidelines in advance of the sale. They want to ensure whatever is built, renovated or razed fits with the historic in-town neighborhoods of Cottontown, Waverly and the Mills District.

"It's the most significant (development in decades) because of its size and the timing," said City Council member Anne Sinclair, who once lived in the historic Mills Building as a caregiver.

"The economy is on the upswing," she said. "There's a lot of interest in downtown Columbia, and people are paying attention to us as a community. The timing is right. We want to be ready."

But the size of the tract and the challenges involved have some developers worried.

Mungo advocated breaking the property up into smaller parcels to sell. "Otherwise you'll just end up with some national company, a Wal-Mart of developers, and the money won't stay in the community."

McLeese said some local firms, such as Edens & Avant, Lake Carolina developer Don Tomlin, and Mungo, would have the resources and expertise to handle the entire tract.

Other, smaller firms could band together to take on the project, he said. "In today's times, a lot of people find ways to do things together."

Efforts to reach Tomlin, Edens & Avant's John Lumpkin, and Arnold Properties' Ben Arnold were unsuccessful.

Another option, McLeese said, would be for the city to buy the property, and then re-sell it as it did with the CCI site.

"But if that happened, they should immediately turn it over to developers" to avoid the delays experienced at CanalSide, he said.

Developers had been slow to embrace the CCI site because of tight city design and zoning requirements, and delays dealing with the Prison Industries Building, which the city tried to market for re-use as a hotel. It since has been demolished.

Mayor Bob Coble said the city won't purchase the property.

"The private sector is red hot, and it will develop that property," he said. "In the past, if the city didn't step in, nothing happened. But all we've done in the last 10 years has led to a market where the private sector is able to develop properties like that.

"But we want to make sure it's done in a manner that's consistent with the surrounding neighborhoods."

PUSHING FOR SALE THIS YEAR

When the property will be sold is still being hashed out.

The General Assembly this week passed the proviso state budget giving the State Budget and Control Board authority to sell off numerous properties around the state deemed surplus.

The State Hospital property was at the top of the list.

The proviso doesn't direct the five-member board to sell the property, but gives it the option along with the option of selling other properties.

However, Sanford, the chairman of the board, wants the property sold this year to put the estimated \$32 million in proceeds against the budget deficit.

Several factors could delay the sale: the size and price of the property; the challenges presented by existing buildings; and, the willingness of other board members to sell it quickly.

Because of those complications, "I think it's highly unlikely it can be sold this year," Sinclair said.

But Sanford says it's doable.

"The governor has been in the real estate business, his chief of staff is a real estate lawyer and they both are confident they can get this done and done quickly," spokesman Will Folks said.

The governor is just one vote on the board, which includes state Treasurer Grady Patterson; Comptroller General Richard

Eckstrom; House Ways and Means Committee chairman Bobby Harrell, R-Charleston; and Senate Finance Committee chairman Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence.

Spokesman Michael Sponhour said the board has yet to discuss the property. "But the sooner we get the process rolling, the better."

The proviso doesn't become law until July 1, and the board could not take up the matter or even schedule a meeting until after that date.

Sponhour said it's too early to decide whether the land will be sold as one tract or broken up into smaller parcels.

"Obviously our staff will bring forth a recommendation," he said.

MIXED USE, GREEN SPACE, MIXED INCOMES

Though the state owns the Bull Street property, the city sets the zoning, historic protection and design rules for anything within its limits.

On May 12, the council chose a committee of city staffers to examine the qualifications of 24 consultants who want to study and make recommendations for the property.

That committee is supposed to make a report to City Council on July 1.

Sinclair said it's too early to determine what the mix of commercial and residential zoning will be or what buildings might be protected.

"That's what the consultant is for," she said. "But I envision mixed use — a live-and-work kind of environment.

"We are not trying to hamstring anyone. But we want it compatible with the surrounding neighborhoods."

Cottontown, just across Bull Street, will be the most heavily affected neighborhood.

Already, Elmwood Avenue, which ends at the State Hospital's front gate, is one of the busiest streets in South Carolina. Residents fear a 178-acre development across the street could make traffic unmanageable.

"My preference would be for a mixed-use development with plenty of green space, friendly to pedestrians and bicycles as well as vehicles," said Cottontown Neighborhood Association board member Carol Hall.

"And, please, mixed incomes. Columbia is too segregated by income."

Reach Wilkinson at (803) 771-8495 or jwilkinson@thestate.com



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

Advocates want sale to benefit mentally ill

By JEFF WILKINSON
Staff Writer

In 1821, South Carolina was a leader in care for the mentally ill.

Legend has it that state Rep. Samuel Farrow, while on the road from Spartanburg to Columbia, noticed a woman who was mentally distressed and without adequate care.

So he and state Sen. William Crafts of Charleston worked tirelessly to convince lawmakers to spend \$30,000 on a mental health facility rather than the state's first prison.

South Carolina became the second state in the nation, behind Virginia, to build an institution for its mentally ill— the S.C. Lunatic Asylum, now known as the Mills Building.

That was the first high point for mental health care in the state, a status that mental health advocates say it can no longer claim.

"We're on the brink of disaster, quite frankly," said Dave Almeida of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill in South Carolina.

Today, the revolutionary campus that grew up on Bull Street is expected to go on the auction block, a casualty of changing philosophies and \$50 million in budget cuts in three years.

Only 60 patients remain on the Bull Street campus — all chronically ill children — along with a few temporary residents placed there for drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

Advocates for the mentally ill generally support the campus' sale — the time of bucolic grounds surrounded by high walls has passed, they say.

But they say the state is being shortsighted if it uses the proceeds from the sale of the 178-acre campus — estimated at \$32 million — to help balance the general fund rather than boost mental health care.

Department of Mental Health officials also want at least a portion of the proceeds to transfer the remaining children off campus and move any equipment and staff that remain.

"The reality is none of us will probably get any of the proceeds," said Geoff Mason, chief of staff for the Department of Mental Health.

Gov. Mark Sanford and many in the General Assembly want to use all of the proceeds from the sale of the State Hospital campus and other surplus property to plug holes in the \$5.5 billion state budget.

"The thought as far as the governor is concerned is that it's state property and should be viewed as an asset of the entire state and not just one agency," spokesman Will Folks said.

Advocates say any temporary benefit to the general fund — where Gov. Mark Sanford wants to direct the proceeds — will be canceled out by tax money spent on the social ills created by not properly treating patients.

"As we have continued to close facilities at the State Hospital, people with mental illnesses have ended up in emergency rooms and jails and many people have ended up homeless," said Joy Jay, executive director of the Mental Health Association of South Carolina. Advocates would rather the money generated by the sale be spent on housing and services for patients capable of integrating into their communities, and building a long-term care facility for the few who can't.

Almeida said a 50-bed facility, perhaps at the Crafts-Farrow Campus in Columbia, could handle the 200 or so patients in the state who occasionally need long-term care.

Currently, he said, those patients are frequently housed in the state's two short-term care facilities, causing much of the backup in the system that flows back to the jails, emergency rooms, the homeless shelters and the streets.

"We think it's critical that the state have some long-term beds," he said.

Greg Pearce is a Richland County council member and the former director of the Crafts-Farrow State Hospital.

He said 10 percent of the inmates at Richland's Alvin Glenn Detention Center are mental patients. And Palmetto Health Richland hospital has added two waiting rooms to handle the 20 to 24 people a day with mental illnesses.

"The lack of long-term beds has caused the whole system to break down," he said.

Eliminating beds, and therefore budget, is the exact opposite of the theory advocated 177 years ago when South Carolina was a leader in the field.

Until that revolutionary philosophy of caring is revived, advocates say, the state will continue to suffer the repercussions.

"The philosophy now is to close beds, and that goes against the philosophy of long-term care," the Mental Health Association of South Carolina's Jay said. "We'll continue to see people in emergency rooms and jails, or on the streets."



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

Historic buildings present big challenges

By JEFF WILKINSON
Staff Writer

Magnolia trees that line the entrance to the State Hospital campus on Bull Street are 105 years old. They are relative newcomers.

Nearby is a cork tree planted in the late 1800s. Two large oaks that flank the Mills Building appear mature in 1853 lithographs.

That's just the landscape.

Several of the 55 buildings on the campus date back as far as 150 years. The campus' central icons, the Mills and Babcock buildings, considered master works, are on the National Register of Historic Places and are protected by historic overlays imposed by the city.

How the site's historic buildings — such as a chapel built with the bricks from the old asylum walls — are renovated and re-used is key to any development built on the 178-acre campus, preservationists say.

"These are national treasures," said Woody Harris, the State Hospital's former training director and its unofficial historian.

The buildings also present the biggest challenges to developing the property. It is estimated that renovating the 215,000-square-foot Babcock Building alone will cost \$20 million.

And some of the newer buildings that might be re-used are filled with asbestos.

"Not many people are going to jump into that without some reservations," said City Council member Jim Papadea, a commercial real estate broker. "All of the developers I know are aware of the problems, and they will figure that into their bids (by offering less for the property.)"

"But there are some tradeoffs because there could be some tax credits for renovating and preserving a historic building."

Even the grounds are historic. In addition to the innovations in mental health care they represent, a stockaded Civil War prison camp once occupied the land behind the Babcock Building.

"The other historic component is archaeology," said Robin Waites, acting executive director of the Historic Columbia Foundation, a nonprofit that manages the Hampton-Preston Mansion and other historic homes and advocates historic preservation. "We don't know what's out there."

The Mills Building is not up for sale, but its classic design should set the tone for development, preservationists say. It was designed in 1821 by Robert Mills of Charleston, America's first trained architect and designer of the Washington Monument — and was revolutionary for its time.

Construction began in 1822 and took six years. Among the building's innovations were fire-proof ceilings, a central heating system and one of the country's first roof gardens. The windows were designed to allow in as little moonlight as possible. Moonlight was thought at the time to heighten mental imbalance.

"Next to the State House, it's probably the most historic building in Columbia," said Greg Pearce, a Richland County Council member who worked at the State Hospital for 17 years.

In the years since the Mills Building opened, the campus grew into a small city unto itself, with play fields and gardens,

even a mattress factory.

Over that time, "Bull Street" entered South Carolina's lexicon as synonymous with institutionalized mental health care. It also carries a stigma that lingered even after the walls of the institution came down and most of the patients were moved.

As a result, many people, even in Columbia, don't know the significance of the property.

"There are people who have lived two blocks away their whole lives and never seen these buildings or these grounds," Harris said. "That needs to change."

Today, the Mills Building is the oldest surviving mental health institution in the country. But preservationists say it is an example of how not to renovate an historic treasure.

It's packed with state offices, closed to the public, and a modern addition has been added to the east wing.

"This could be a great draw for tourists, but they can't even get in," Harris said.

A spokesman for the Department of Health and Environmental Control said the building is closed because sensitive records are stored there. But tours for groups can be arranged, she said.

Construction of the Babcock Building began in 1858 and continued for decades. The four-story wings of the building were built first, and later the central structure with its distinctive cupola.

The building now sits empty behind a chain-link fence. Renovating it will be a challenge, developers say.

It is so vast, Harris questions what it could be used for.

"There's room for 800 lawyers in there," he said. "I know you could find 800 lawyers in Columbia, but I don't know if they would all move in there."

The 215,000 square feet just includes the main buildings. Two huge dining halls were added to the rear of the building, as well as a half-dozen or so small brick outbuildings.

Sherrer said many of the smaller buildings have architectural value, but their historical significance needs to be recorded.

"We need to know what the cultural and physical assets are," he said. "We don't right now."

Reach Wilkinson at (803) 771-8495 or jwilkinson@thestate.com



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

Historic buildings present big challenges

By JEFF WILKINSON
Staff Writer

Magnolia trees that line the entrance to the State Hospital campus on Bull Street are 105 years old. They are relative newcomers.

Nearby is a cork tree planted in the late 1800s. Two large oaks that flank the Mills Building appear mature in 1853 lithographs.

That's just the landscape.

Several of the 55 buildings on the campus date back as far as 150 years. The campus' central icons, the Mills and Babcock buildings, considered master works, are on the National Register of Historic Places and are protected by historic overlays imposed by the city.

How the site's historic buildings — such as a chapel built with the bricks from the old asylum walls — are renovated and re-used is key to any development built on the 178-acre campus, preservationists say.

"These are national treasures," said Woody Harris, the State Hospital's former training director and its unofficial historian.

The buildings also present the biggest challenges to developing the property. It is estimated that renovating the 215,000-square-foot Babcock Building alone will cost \$20 million.

And some of the newer buildings that might be re-used are filled with asbestos.

"Not many people are going to jump into that without some reservations," said City Council member Jim Papadea, a commercial real estate broker. "All of the developers I know are aware of the problems, and they will figure that into their bids (by offering less for the property.)"

"But there are some tradeoffs because there could be some tax credits for renovating and preserving a historic building."

Even the grounds are historic. In addition to the innovations in mental health care they represent, a stockaded Civil War prison camp once occupied the land behind the Babcock Building.

"The other historic component is archaeology," said Robin Waites, acting executive director of the Historic Columbia Foundation, a nonprofit that manages the Hampton-Preston Mansion and other historic homes and advocates historic preservation. "We don't know what's out there."

The Mills Building is not up for sale, but its classic design should set the tone for development, preservationists say. It was designed in 1821 by Robert Mills of Charleston, America's first trained architect and designer of the Washington Monument — and was revolutionary for its time.

Construction began in 1822 and took six years. Among the building's innovations were fire-proof ceilings, a central heating system and one of the country's first roof gardens. The windows were designed to allow in as little moonlight as possible. Moonlight was thought at the time to heighten mental imbalance.

"Next to the State House, it's probably the most historic building in Columbia," said Greg Pearce, a Richland County Council member who worked at the State Hospital for 17 years.

In the years since the Mills Building opened, the campus grew into a small city unto itself, with play fields and gardens,

even a mattress factory.

Over that time, "Bull Street" entered South Carolina's lexicon as synonymous with institutionalized mental health care. It also carries a stigma that lingered even after the walls of the institution came down and most of the patients were moved.

As a result, many people, even in Columbia, don't know the significance of the property.

"There are people who have lived two blocks away their whole lives and never seen these buildings or these grounds," Harris said. "That needs to change."

Today, the Mills Building is the oldest surviving mental health institution in the country. But preservationists say it is an example of how not to renovate an historic treasure.

It's packed with state offices, closed to the public, and a modern addition has been added to the east wing.

"This could be a great draw for tourists, but they can't even get in," Harris said.

A spokesman for the Department of Health and Environmental Control said the building is closed because sensitive records are stored there. But tours for groups can be arranged, she said.

Construction of the Babcock Building began in 1858 and continued for decades. The four-story wings of the building were built first, and later the central structure with its distinctive cupola.

The building now sits empty behind a chain-link fence. Renovating it will be a challenge, developers say.

It is so vast, Harris questions what it could be used for.

"There's room for 800 lawyers in there," he said. "I know you could find 800 lawyers in Columbia, but I don't know if they would all move in there."

The 215,000 square feet just includes the main buildings. Two huge dining halls were added to the rear of the building, as well as a half-dozen or so small brick outbuildings.

Sherrer said many of the smaller buildings have architectural value, but their historical significance needs to be recorded.

"We need to know what the cultural and physical assets are," he said. "We don't right now."

Reach Wilkinson at (803) 771-8495 or jwilkinson@thestate.com



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

Donnybrook rages in District 43

Three high-profile Republicans battle for party's Senate nomination

By AARON GOULD SHEININ
Staff Writer

Henry Fishburne figures he is running against two incumbents in the GOP primary for the Lowcountry's Senate District 43 seat — the current senator and a former House member with close ties to the governor.

That dynamic has made the District 43 race one of the most watched among the 28 legislative primary contests that feature an incumbent June 8.

"Our strategy is to get in the runoff," said Fishburne, 56, a real estate lawyer from Charleston. "Being the underdog, we would have beaten at least one incumbent at that point."

The actual incumbent is Sen. John Kuhn of Charleston. Kuhn won the seat in a special election in 2001 and since has made a name for himself as something of a renegade.

At times, Kuhn has angered members of his own party, as well as other Lowcountry legislators. He recently got into a shouting match with first lady Jenny Sanford over her campaign contribution to Kuhn's other opponent, former state Rep. Chip Campsen. Gov. Mark Sanford has not become involved in the race, but Campsen's campaign materials feature Sanford.

Campsen was a House member for six years before honoring a term-limit pledge and retiring in 2002. He is a close friend of Sanford, working on the governor's transition team following the 2002 election and as his top legislative aide in 2003.

Kuhn said he was not surprised to be one of only 12 Senate incumbents with primary opposition. "I've been very high-profile, standing up for voters and not for special interests."

"He (Kuhn) led efforts to derail the governor's restructuring plan, and I helped (Sanford) develop it," Campsen said.

Campsen said that is "as dramatic contrast as you can find" between two candidates.

While he opposed parts of Sanford's plan, Kuhn denies he worked to scuttle it. "My opponent is just wrong."

District 43 is sprawling. It includes eight municipalities, stretching from the Isle of Palms down along the coast toward Kiawah Island and jutting west-northwest toward Goose Creek and Summerville.

Campsen and Fishburne say Kuhn — and his sometimes rocky relationship with other legislators — is a top issue in the campaign.

"I don't think that John Kuhn has done a good job," Fishburne said. "And I don't think I would be running and Chip Campsen wouldn't be running if I thought otherwise."

In his first year in office, Kuhn was rebuked by Majority Leader Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, for tying up debate. Last year, he had to apologize for suggesting Myrtle Beach drew tourists that Charleston did not want.

On the final day of the 2003 legislative session, Kuhn also filibustered a bill that would have given money to Charleston colleges and technical schools because it called for the state to borrow cash.

If none of the three candidates gets a majority of the votes on June 8, a runoff will be June 22. The eventual nominee will face Democrat Constance Anastopoulou in November.

PEE DEE BATTLE

Another closely watched race is unfolding in the Pee Dee, where incumbent Sen. Maggie Glover, D-Florence, has two primary opponents.

Glover has been in the Senate since 1993, serving in the House three years before that.

Her opponents — tax consultant Tim Norwood of Florence and Marion County assistant administrator Kent Williams — have worked to make the campaign about the lack of jobs in the four-county district.

"The jobs issue cuts across all party lines, all racial lines," Norwood said. "It's purely about (Glover's) understanding of jobs."

Williams agreed, adding two of the district's four counties — Marion and Marlboro — have the state's highest jobless rate.

"This district is very rural, a very poor district, economically deprived," Williams said. "The citizens feel they've been left out, that they haven't had the representation."

Glover said she trusts her constituents to understand she has worked for them in Columbia.

"I'm running strongly on my proven record," Glover said. "I'm counting on my constituents to follow through on what they always tell me."

The eventual Democratic nominee is as good as elected. There is no GOP candidate in November.

Reach Gould Sheinin at (803) 771-8658 or asheinin@thestate.com.



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

How to invigorate S.C.

USC report identifies social, economic and educational policies to move state forward

By CLAUDIA SMITH BRINSON
Columnist

Even in our misery we resist change. "Better the devil you know," we say.

But when the social, economic and educational life of this state measure dead last for decades, we might consider reconsidering.

"The world hates change, yet it is the only thing that has brought progress," said American inventor Charles F. Kettering.

"And Miles to Go Before I Sleep," a University of South Carolina research project report released Monday, suggests policy changes that might change lives. The 204-page report commemorates the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, which ended

segregation in public schools, by considering conditions limiting progress of black South Carolinians and thus all South Carolinians.

"I do believe that when full opportunity is denied to any among us, it is denied to all of us," Fred Sheheen wrote in the book's

prologue. A senior fellow with the Institute for Public Service and Policy Research, Sheheen directed the project.

"Miles to Go Before I Sleep" proposes more than two dozen policy changes,

including giving children access to computers, giving runaways shelters and giving all of us universal health insurance.

"I believe very strongly — and I'm a native South

Carolinian — that one of the inhibiting factors in this state is an attitude of limited expectations: 'We can't do what everybody else does. We can't compete.' I think that attitude of limited expectations has held back the state," Sheheen said.

"I think it's important for institutions of higher education to speak to aspirations and goals and not try to meet the lowest expectations of the lowest denominator.

"Forward-looking ideas need to be discussed, and as they get

discussed, something useful will emerge."



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

An enduring political legacy

Sheheens' presence in state politics spans three generations

By KRISTY EPPLEY RUPON
Staff Writer

When Austin Sheheen Sr. was elected in 1958 to Camden City Council, he didn't know he was starting a political family tradition.

Nearly 50 years and three generations later, the Sheheen family has made its mark on local and state politics.

And while other South Carolina families are active in politics, what distinguishes the Sheheens — characterized by many who know them as independent thinkers and hard workers — is staying power.

"It's pretty remarkable to hold on for such a long time," said Patrick Maney, chairman of the history department at the University of South Carolina, particularly through dramatic changes to Southern politics in the 1960s and 1970s. "A lot of political would-be dynasties didn't survive. They just got eclipsed by events."

The family has produced a Camden mayor and Kershaw County Council chairman — Austin Sheheen Sr. and Austin Sheheen Jr. — who worked to improve city-county relations.

Other members took on statewide roles: Bob Sheheen as S.C. House speaker, who helped guide the state through a tumultuous political scandal; and Fred Sheheen, whose stint as state higher education commissioner helped shape the way education is structured today. Fred's son, Vincent, is the state's newest senator, elected in a special race three months ago.

"It's a marvelous legacy of service to South Carolina," said Jean Toal, S.C. Supreme Court chief justice and a longtime family friend. "These folks did more than just serve, they really made a difference."

Fred Sheheen said his family operates from a basic principle: that people have an obligation to give back to the community.

"I'm proud that my family does that," he said.

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Unlike some of America's political families, who are rooted in affluent social circles with family money, the Sheheens began life in America as outsiders.

Patriarch Abraham Sheheen came to the United States from Lebanon in 1896. He and his brother, Joseph, walked 300 miles from Newport News, Va., to Camden, where they settled and opened a grocery store.

"For many, many, many years, my family struggled," Austin Jr. said.

But fate brought Abraham to meet a traveling priest, who came through Camden every couple of months. He wanted to settle down and asked the priest to be on the lookout for a suitable wife. Eventually, word came back that there was a Catholic Lebanese family in Thomasville, Ga., with several eligible daughters.

So Abraham met Elizabeth Koosa.

"He went down and picked my grandmother out, who was 18, and he was 31," Austin Jr. said.

Abraham and Elizabeth spent 60 years together, raising six sons.

The second son, Austin Sr., followed his father in starting a business.

And then, he started the family's tradition of service to community.

"Part of what makes us tick, I think, is that we're an immigrant family," Vincent Sheheen said. "That thankfulness for America has kind of played down through the generations."

'ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS'

In 1950 — before Austin Sr. was elected to political office — his wife, Lucile, and sons Austin Jr., Bob, Fred and Michael were living in a three-bedroom home, sharing one bathroom and getting by on \$457 a month.

Living in the small town of Camden, Austin Sr. and Lucile made it a point to teach their sons lessons about working hard, being humble and serving others.

"My parents fostered an attitude in our household of participation," Bob said.

These kinds of values were highlighted in a Ladies' Home Journal story about the Sheheens, after Lucile nominated her family for a 1950s article series looking at how typical, middle-class America lived.

Reporters Earl and Dorothy Selby lived for a couple of months with the Sheheens — the boys then were ages 7-15 — watching their everyday activities and even going on the older boys' dates.

"They were everywhere, all the time," Fred said but added, "We were all thrilled to death to be in the magazine."

What was written, Fred said, was representative of many Southern families of the day: strong in values, faith and family.

Austin Sr., active in the Chamber of Commerce, Jaycees and recreation commission, was typical of men who were "the hope of new Camden," then-Mayor Henry Savage told the magazine.

Fred, then 13, was "known in junior high as a man who gets things done."

Brother Bob, 7, was "solidly confident" and planned "to be a magician."

Austin Jr., 15, was spreading his wings as a high-school football player and stamp collector. Brother Michael, 9, had "a natural flair for rhythm."

And keeping all of them in line was Lucile.

"She was the glue that held our family together," Austin Jr. said.

Lucile was active in her sons' lives, Bob said, from attending oratorical contests and football games to keeping them disciplined with chores and education.

"She always wanted you to know your first line of security was your family," Bob said.

And part of family was responsibility.

Friday was cleaning day, Bob said. The boys helped wash the dishes and clean the house — "chores ordinarily reserved for girls," the magazine observed.

And when they sat down for their three squares a day, they ate what was on their plate with no back talk.

"If you said you didn't like it," Bob said, "she gave you a double helping."

Daughter-in-law Rose Sheheen, Fred's wife, said Lucile was like a tigress in the way she protected her sons. But she also had high expectations for them.

"She didn't tolerate fools," Rose said, "and she kept them humble."

She said the boys might have gotten their political savvy from their father, but "their intellectual prowess comes through their mama."

"I've always been a big believer that actions speak louder than words," Vincent said. "I learned from what I saw."

CLOSENESS AND INDEPENDENCE

The most important lessons from Austin Sr. and Lucile — who died in 2000 and 1996, respectively — were about commitment to family.

The Sheheens had a tradition of getting together at the family lake house every Sunday. But when Austin Jr. was older, he decided he wanted to spend some of his Sundays golfing.

A quiet reprimand from his father changed his mind.

"He very calmly said, 'Sunday is family day. You can play golf on another day,'" Austin Jr. recalled.

"I never missed going from that day on."

Today, the brothers don't get together every Sunday. But when a holiday rolls around, they gather at their Lake Wateree family compound, now a cluster of family cabins.

On Mother's Day, the men cook for the women. On Father's Day, they switch roles.

Austin, 69, and his wife, Joan, have seven daughters. Fred, 67, and Rose have two daughters and a son.

Bob, 61, never married. Neither did brother Michael, who died last year at age 62 and whose arrest in the early 1990s tested the family's strength.

The three brothers and their parents rallied around Michael, who served more than eight years in federal prison in the 1990s after pleading guilty to fraud, embezzlement and money-laundering charges. He was convicted of bilking \$11 million from investors.

His brothers say not a week went by that Michael didn't get a letter or a visit from a family member while in prison.

"That was the hardest time for my family ever," Austin Jr. said.

Though the Sheheens have shared family and political traditions, they don't always agree on everything — especially politics.

One example, Fred said, was on the issue of The Citadel admitting women in the early 1990s. Bob was House speaker, and Fred was heading the Commission on Higher Education.

"I took a firm position that The Citadel ought to admit women," Fred said. "Bob sponsored legislation to keep (women) out of The Citadel."

Still, Fred said, it is hard to fight the stereotype that family members hold the same political opinions.

"The dynasty issue becomes an issue whether you like it or not. My feeling is you try not to feed that, you try not to do things that make it appear that there's some kind of dynasty," he said.

"You just establish your own independence and you trust that the public will have confidence in you."

Fresh thinking and political courage has helped keep the Sheheen family in politics during the years, said USC political science professor Blease Graham.

"There's not a staleness in their thinking," he said. "I think South Carolina, over the 300 years of its existence, has

benefited from individuals like this."

Vincent Sheheen, whose seat will be up for re-election in November, said he hopes his young sons will take to heart the Sheheen tradition of community service — but whether that means a fourth generation of political servants is up to them.

"I don't hope one way or the other," he said. "If they do, I think it would be great and honorable. ... (But) I wouldn't want them to feel like there's pressure."

Their grandfather, Fred, agrees.

"Each person crafts his own future," he said. "They may be artists or poets instead of politicians, and that's fine."

Reach Rupon at (803) 771-8622 or krupon@thestate.com.

© 2004 The State and wire service sources. All Rights Reserved.
<http://www.thestate.com>

**SOUTHERN
WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY**
Adult & Graduate Studies

Getting your degree at
Southern Wesleyan University
can make all the difference



GreenvilleOnline.com
The Greenville News

[Home](#) • [News](#) • [Communities](#) • [Entertainment](#) • [Classifieds](#) • [Coupons](#) • [Real estate](#) • [Jobs](#) • [Cars](#) • [Custom publications](#) • [Help](#)

Monday

Search



Subscribe Now!
The Greenville News

School funding, not splitting district, is on parents' minds

Posted Sunday, May 23, 2004 - 1:03 am

By Tim Smith and Ron Barnett
STAFF WRITERS

COLUMBIA — Sue Erickson, president of the District 1 PTA in Greenville County, opposed the idea of splitting up the school district in 1996, the last time voters faced the issue.

She doesn't think much has changed since then.


"I don't think we should be thinking about that," she said. "Instead of thinking about dividing the district, the Legislature should be thinking about how to fully fund education."

Lawmakers are considering a proposal that would ask voters in November to decide whether to create a task force and study the issue of breaking up Greenville's school district, the state's largest.

Legislators who favor a referendum and a new study of the issue acknowledge that the arguments for and against deconsolidation remain much as they did in 1996, when 60 percent of voters in a Greenville County referendum rejected the idea.

But they say they don't believe a study done then was fully objective or that voters were fully informed.

"I don't think that the dynamics are all that much different then they were eight years ago," said Rep. Lewis Vaughn of Greer, chairman of the Greenville County legislative delegation. "I just don't think the vote was done with good information out there. I think people demagogued that issue."

 [e-mail this story](#)

Related

Online extra

• [Greenville News' forum on school issues](#)

Previous coverage

• [Legislators revive idea of dividing school district](#)

Top Jobs

The Greenville News

POWERED BY
careerbuilder

Assistant Director To assist Exec

Instructor/Training Coordinator

A/V SALES

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

MAINTENANCE PERSON Needed for Local company

[All Top Jobs](#)

Home
News
Business
Sports
Clemson
USC
Furman
Auto racing
High schools
SAIL swimming
Outdoors
Obituaries
Opinion
Elections
Homes
Health
Education
Features
Flair
Weddings
City People
Nation/World
Technology
Weather
Communities
Entertainment
Classifieds
Coupons
Real estate
Jobs
Cars
Custom
Publications
Help

Rep. Bob Leach, a supporter of the legislation, agreed that little has changed since 1996. But he said he isn't confident the study done then was objective.

However, Rep. Fletcher Smith, a black Greenville Democrat, said some things have changed. The black community is no longer as supportive of keeping one district, he said.

Since 1996, he said, the number of black teachers has declined, and the rate of failure of black schoolchildren is up, as is the number of black students who are suspended.

"I think the only reason it failed eight years ago is because the black community wasn't supportive," he said. "I think if you add the black community and educate them as to what's really going on, I think the vote will really turn around."

Leola Robinson, a black school trustee, said she understands and agrees with Smith's frustration. But she said even with the problems, deconsolidation could prove worse for minorities and the poor.

"We'd be much like those poor, majority-black districts in the lower part of the state which have no money," she said.

"I think this may be a wake-up call to our school district that unless they want to risk the possibility of having the district break up, that they had better do a good job of assuring that they tend to the needs of all sections of the district, not just the Eastside."

Joe Dill, a member of the Greenville County Council who served on the school board during the last deconsolidation effort, said eight years might be enough time to take another look at the issue.

"This is an ideal time to do that with them doing all these new buildings and bringing all the schools up to the same standard," he said.

Some people who live in the northern part of Greenville County, the area he represents, send their kids to school in Spartanburg District 1 because they like the smaller district, he said. Spartanburg County is divided into seven school districts. Anderson County has five.

"They like having their own community schools, and they like the way that everything operates," Dill said. "It's just so much better when you feel ownership of your schools."

The Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, which opposed deconsolidation then, hasn't had time to take a formal position on the issue, but concerns have been raised about the costs associated with a referendum, said Derrick Pierce, vice president for public policy.

"Even though this is only legislation to ask for a referendum on putting together a task force, the cost involved in doing all that and the time it takes out of the school district quickly adds up in dollar figures up into the millions," he said.

"And when you're talking about already having to go through budget cuts, you're talking about probably taking away teacher positions when you're talking about that kind of money."

Leach said such estimates aren't true. He said he doesn't know that the referendum or study would cost the school system anything. He said the costs would be minimal and lawmakers plan to ask the state to pay for them, if voters approve the task force.

Grier Mullins, executive director of the Alliance for Quality Education, which opposed splitting up the district before, said deconsolidation has been studied and voted on.

"I hope our senators won't pass this," she said. "We don't need to spend more district

time and energy on this. We need to be concentrating on educating all students."

When the issue was studied before, "nothing in the report said deconsolidating the school district would educate children any better."

The Rev. J.M. Flemming, who is asking the U.S. Attorney's Office to look into the legality of the district's county-wide building plan, said splitting up the district would only worsen the situation he's fighting against — not enough schools in the Westside and downtown Greenville.

"Now it would be to our advantage to keep one district because all of the school buildings have been moved into two areas of the county," he said. "So if we break it up that means you're going to have two segments of the community that will have no schools whatsoever. So then how is that going to be fair to the citizens who are paying taxes in Greenville County?"

But a split didn't sound like a bad idea to Paul Rathke of Greer, who has four children in the district.

"It is a big county and it does seem to be unwieldy if the last guy is any indication," said Rathke, 38. "There may be some advantages. What would concern me would be disadvantages. It depends on where the split goes. It could help two districts at the expense of a third."



[news](#) | [communities](#) | [entertainment](#) | [classifieds](#) | [real estate](#) | [jobs](#) | [cars](#) | [customer services](#)

Copyright 2003 [The Greenville News](#). Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) (updated 12/17/2002).





GreenvilleOnline.com
The Greenville News

Home • News • Communities • Entertainment • Classifieds • Coupons • Real estate • Jobs • Cars • Custom publications • Help

careerbuilder

Search

Go

Subscribe Now!

The Greenville News

Home

News

Business

Sports

Clemson

USC

Furman

Auto racing

High schools

SAIL swimming

Outdoors

Obituaries

Opinion

Elections

Homes

Health

Education

Features

Flair

Weddings

City People

Nation/World

Technology

Weather

Communities

Entertainment

Classifieds

Coupons

Real estate

Jobs

Cars

Custom

Publications

Help

Worry on menu at GOP picnic

Posted Sunday, May 23, 2004 - 1:27 am

By Dan Hoover
STAFF WRITER
dh Hoover@greenvillenews.com

GREER — Barbecue, lemonade, tents, a scorching sun, political oratory and an undercurrent of concern about the Bush administration marked the 4th Congressional District GOP family picnic Saturday.

Twenty-two-year-old Phillip Carros, a recent University of South Carolina Spartanburg graduate, is among the worried, more about Bush than what his first job will be as a degree-bearing adult.

He "definitely" has doubts about the survival of the Bush administration, "especially seeing how we're going to have another election like 2000," when it took a recount in Florida and a Supreme Court ruling to give Bush an Electoral College majority weeks after the election.

Carros said the media's negative coverage of the administration is "what's going to hurt him the most."


State Rep. Bob Leach, R-Greer, said he expects another Bush landslide in South Carolina, but is worried about the president's chances nationally.

"I do sense some concern" among Republicans, Leach said.

careerbuilder.com



Congressional candidate Jack Adams addresses Republicans at a stump meeting Saturday. (Alan DeVorsey/Staff)

 e-mail this story

Related

Related stories:

Monday

careerbuilder

careerbuilder

W

There's some basis for it.

Larry Sabato, the University of Virginia presidential scholar, cited "deepening" gloom among Republicans in his online column this week.

With Bush falling behind Democrat John Kerry in national polls, the campaign's fourth lead change, Sabato wrote that "somehow, Bush's problems appear more damaging and perhaps more enduring with a mere (23 weeks) remaining before the November election."

Sabato cited a presidency that is "inextricably bound" to a deteriorating situation in Iraq and gets "no credit at all for the substantial, very positive rebound in the economy."

Jimmy Moore of Spartanburg said, "There's a lot of concern in the Upstate with Bush about the (Medicare) prescription drug bill and out-of-control spending."

That doesn't translate into an expectation of a Bush defeat, he said. "I don't sense that," said Moore, who operates a Republican Web site.

He said Bush's slumping in the national polls is media-driven, that negative reporting on Iraq and the war against terror ignores America's successes and plays up its setbacks.

"The core group from 2000 is still there," Moore said.

Phil Shoopman of Greer, a GOP national convention delegate and member of the state Board of Education, said the concern among Republicans isn't about South Carolina, but swing states such as Kentucky, Pennsylvania and the Rust Belt that the president must carry to win a second term.

"My personal concern is that we not lose sight of the long-term goal, the war on terror," Shoopman said.

Candidates from local offices to the U.S. Senate got their moments at the microphone, but had to compete against a chow line and the heat.

Three congressional candidates whose race has often been overshadowed by the Senate contest, and even the County Council struggle between incumbent Scott Case and challenger Hayne Hipp, got their day in the sun.

The incumbent, Jim DeMint of Greenville, is among six candidates for the U.S. Senate nomination.

Jack Adams, a Greenville retiree and admitted long shot for the seat, warned that "the country's going downhill" and called for the deportation of illegal immigrants and the impeachment of federal judges who "make law from the bench."

Bob Inglis of Travelers Rest, the district's 1993-99 incumbent, stuck with his campaign theme of clarity, saying, "We need to think clearly about trade competitiveness,

- Hipp calls Case's Web site 'mean-spirited, manipulative'
- DeMint criticizes Beasley's comments



LOW-BOY OPERATOR

TELEMARKETING

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Citi Trends, Inc

JOB HUNTING Most superior sales

All Top Jobs

regaining clarity in a Republican Congress, balancing the budget and obtaining better health care.

Inglis said the budget can be balanced again "if we can keep the Democrats from taxing and keep ourselves from spending."

Carole Wells of Spartanburg, a former state legislator and current Employment Security Commission member, said she would work for a balanced budget and tax relief.

But Wells said she "has the courage to go to Washington and stand up and fight for the resources for the 4th Congressional District."

She didn't mention Inglis, but one of the criticisms he faced was that he wasn't aggressive enough in getting federal money for the district.

Inglis, who has reassessed a number of positions, including abandoning self-imposed term limits, said recently he would seek federal money for the district for projects consistent with national goals.

Celestine Parker, 6th Congressional District Republican chairman and state GOP outreach coordinator, was among the speakers who are not running for office. Parker briefed the crowd on recruitment progress.

In an interview, she said efforts to bring in minorities are "doing great," citing the first minority national convention delegates in 12 years, but expressed some concern about whether all 46 county parties have embraced the revitalized outreach program.

"You can't do it without the counties," she said.

Are the counties on board?

"I'm not going to answer that."

Except for two catering company employees, Parker and a companion were the only minorities in an otherwise all-white crowd of several hundred.



[news](#) | [communities](#) | [entertainment](#) | [classifieds](#) | [real estate](#) | [jobs](#) | [cars](#) | [customer services](#)

Copyright 2003 [The Greenville News](#). Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) (updated 12/17/2002).





GreenvilleOnline.com
The Greenville News

Home • News • Communities • Entertainment • Classifieds • Coupons • Real estate • Jobs • Cars • Custom publications • Help

careerbuilder

Search



Subscribe Now!

The Greenville News

Home

News

Business

Sports

Clemson

USC

Furman

Auto racing

High schools

SAIL swimming

Outdoors

Obituaries

Opinion

Elections

Homes

Health

Education

Features

Flair

Weddings

City People

Nation/World

Technology

Weather

Communities

Entertainment

Classifieds

Coupons

Real estate

Jobs

Cars

Custom

Publications

Help

DeMint criticizes Beasley's comments

Posted Sunday, May 23, 2004 - 1:40 am

By Dan Hoover
STAFF WRITER
dhooover@greenvillenews.com

Republican Senate candidate Jim DeMint broke with Saturday's feel-good atmosphere to sharply criticize one of his opponents during a 4th Congressional District picnic.

DeMint reacted to comments by the race's front-runner, former Gov. David Beasley, that only Beasley can defeat presumptive Democratic nominee Inez Tenenbaum.

DeMint was the last of the GOP's Senate candidates to speak.

He said Beasley had "said what he's been saying all around the state, that he's the only candidate that can beat Inez Tenenbaum, and I just cautioned people that he's said many things, including setting the world record in the 40-yard dash."

Beasley said, "I'm sorry to hear that Jim said that. I expected him to hold to a higher standard."

DeMint, the current 4th District congressman, referred to widely publicized remarks Beasley made to a high school audience early in his 1995-99 term.

In September 1995, Beasley acknowledged he "got carried away" in telling a high school audience that as a high school athlete he ran the 40-yard dash in 4.3 seconds and the 100-yard dash

WANT TO

Compare



 [e-mail this story](#)

Related

Related stories:

• [Worry on menu at GOP picnic](#)

Top Jobs

The Greenville News

POWERED BY

careerbuilder®

JOB FAIR

in 9.5 seconds.

DeMint also linked Beasley's 1998 re-election defeat by Democrat Jim Hodges to their current campaign.

"I said, quite frankly, if he couldn't beat Jim Hodges for governor, he isn't going to beat Jim DeMint," DeMint said he told the crowd.

"I just felt somebody needed to take him to task. If that's his justification for running, all the evidence points the other way," DeMint said.

Instructor/Training Coordinator

A/V SALES

MICROBIOLOGY TECHNICIAN

PIEDMONT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

All Top Jobs

care



[news](#) | [communities](#) | [entertainment](#) | [classifieds](#) | [real estate](#) | [jobs](#) | [cars](#) | [customer services](#)

Copyright 2003 The Greenville News. Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) (updated 12/17/2002).

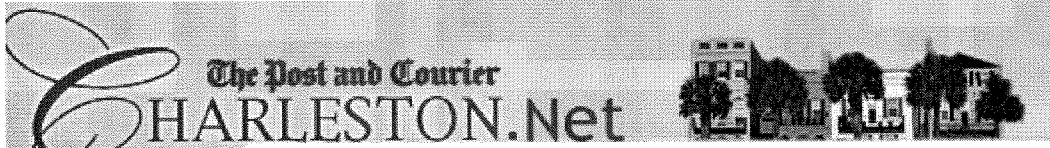


The Greenville News

greenvilleonline.com



Subscribe |



Quick Navigation

Classifieds
Weather
Home
User Registration

News

Local News
State/Region
World/Nation
War on Terror
Business
Stock Quotes
The Wire
Archives
Obituaries
Opinion
Columnists

Sports

Sports
High School
Outdoors
Columnists

Special Reports

Brown v. Board
Business Outlook
Good Samaritan
Mission
Sep 11 Lawsuit
Weddings
H.L. Hunley
Summer Camps

Features

Arts & Travel
Book Reviews
Home & Gardens
Life
Religion
Health & Science
Schools Plus
Ink (for teens)
Food
Family Life
Fashion
High Profile
Automotive
Homes & Real Estate
Columnists

Entertainment

TV Listings
Preview

Charleston.Net > News > State/Region



STATE/REGION The Post and Courier



EMAIL THIS STORY



PRINT THIS STORY

Story last updated at 6:41 a.m. Sunday, May 23, 2004

GOP Senate candidates hit church circuit to court voters

BY SCHUYLER KROPP

Of The Post and Courier Staff

Churchgoers in North Charleston may find a well-groomed stranger sitting in the pew next to them today. Don't worry: He's just a Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate stopping by to hear the sermon -- and stump for votes.

U.S. Rep. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., will travel three hours from his Greenville base, where he's a household name, to attend services at Northside Baptist Church.

It's a large congregation of more than 650, but they don't know much about the three-term congressman who wants to succeed Democratic Sen. Fritz Hollings.

DeMint isn't the only Senate candidate on the church circuit. Former Gov. David Beasley lives in Darlington County, but he's been a regular attendee at services as far away as Greenville and Spartanburg.

Charleston developer Thomas Ravenel is a member of the French Huguenot Church downtown, but as a Senate candidate, he'll be a guest at a Baptist church in Horry County today.

"A large part of the electorate are evangelicals," Ravenel said. "You fish where the fish are."

After 10 years of dormancy, South Carolina's Christian right is being wooed like never before in a GOP Senate primary. Christian conservatives are expected to dominate the turnout June 8.

"Our polling indicates roughly 70 percent of Republican primary voters claim to be 'born again,'" said Mike Green, spokesman for



advanced search



homes



jobs



news

ADVERTISING



SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad:

Local Jobs (399)

Area Homes (1582)

New and Used Autos



HOMES



JOBS



AUTOS

→ VIEW ALL ADS

→ SUBMIT AN AD

SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad

JOB SEEKER!

BE SURE TO BROWSE
DISPLAY ADS

The Post and Courier

BECAUSE KNOWING
MAKES A DIFFERENCE.



STATE/REGION

GOP Senate candidates hit
circuit to court voters

Stringing bills together can't
legislative issues

Thurmond's biracial daughter
brother for 1st time

Inmate, woman charged with
in Allendale prison shooting

Former chief executive settles
investors lawsuits

Movies
Dining Guide

the Ravenel campaign. "If (they) are going to vote, then you have to go after them to win."

[Book signing brings York rio together again](#)

[STATE REPORT](#)

[S.C. LOTTERY](#)

Interact

Internet Access Net
Gateway
Feedback
Customer Service
About Us

Strom Thurmond didn't have to do it, and neither did his successor, U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, largely because they faced no opposition and were established party favorites. But with six Republicans running in the primary, the candidates need every advantage they can find, including paying homage to the church-going right. Most "born-again" are viewed as conservative because their beliefs coincide with Republican Party planks on social issues, primarily abortion.

Directories

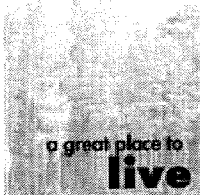
Advertising
Rate Card

By Green's estimate, Ravenel has spent at least five Sundays away from his regular Charleston church this year. Beasley's camp said he's gone to at least five churches. Both Beasley and DeMint have visited the largest of all church stops in South Carolina: the weekly chapel meeting at conservative Bob Jones University in Greenville, which draws 7,000.

Classifieds
Real Estate
Employment
Transportation

In most cases, the visiting candidates don't take their stump speeches into the sanctuary. Instead, they ask to be recognized by the presiding minister as a visitor, essentially walking a delicate line that combines faith with a subtle appeal for votes. This polite Republican approach is far removed from the way the Democratic presidential candidates stumped in South Carolina's black churches earlier this year.

Governments
Tips for Tourists
Summer Guide



Most of the Democrats spoke directly from the pulpit, appealing for votes, not souls.



The Republicans are just as aware of the church vote.

"There's always been a connection of the spiritual and political side," DeMint said, "but it's best to maintain a low key."

"There's no question there's great political opportunity" in churches, Beasley said. "The faith factor in South Carolina is huge. It's a way of life for social gatherings, for entertainment."

The three other Republicans running in the primary -- former Attorney General Charlie Condon, Bluffton businesswoman Orly Benny Davis and Myrtle Beach Mayor Mark McBride -- have expressed their commitment to faith on the campaign trail, but none has been on a regular Sunday church circuit.

Condon, who was repeatedly supported by the Christian right when he was the state's outspoken attorney general, hasn't spent a single Sunday this election season visiting a church other than his own.

"I'm not having a different message from Rotary (clubs) to people going to church," Condon said.

That's a bad strategy this year, political scientists say, even if the Christian Coalition isn't as strong as it was in the mid-1990s when Beasley rode their support into the Governor's Mansion.

"The Christian conservatives are basically the core of the Republican Party in the South," said Furman University political scientist Jim Guth, who follows both the Moral Majority and the Southern Baptist Convention.

The recognition of gay marriage in Massachusetts, the continued fight over abortion rights and campaign pledges by the leading candidates to keep God in the Pledge of Allegiance have galvanized the right, he said.

Even if umbrella organizations such as the Christian Coalition aren't as strong as they were a decade ago, direct visits to congregations should be mandatory for candidates, Guth said.

"The reason you don't have as many activist organizations anymore is that you don't need them," he said. "They pretty much have institutionalized themselves in the party."

Several telephone messages left for Christian Coalition of America president Roberta Combs of Hanahan were not returned. Ravenel did have a meeting with her when he entered the race as a virtual unknown.

The re-emergence of the Christian right has a lot to do with the status of the election for an open U.S. Senate seat and the fact that the Republican who wins the primary is likely to keep those voters active into the November race, said College of Charleston political scientist Bill Moore.

Beasley is probably the favorite of the Christian right from his time as governor, Moore said, although he added that the June 8 vote is likely to be diluted by a number of factors, including geography.

By most accounts, the race is still wide open. There have been no independent media polls taken, but most Republican observers peg Beasley as the front-runner, with DeMint, Condon and Ravenel having the best chance to get into a runoff June 22 if the first-place finisher fails to collect more than 50 percent of the vote.

Moore doubts that 70 percent of the GOP turnout will be "born again" voters. The number probably is closer to one-third, he said. About 300,000 Republican voters are expected to come out.

In tandem with Sunday visits, some of the candidates have tapped into church e-mail lists or collected the home addresses of churchgoers taken from church bulletins. Those addresses, either smuggled or voluntarily given to a candidate, are likely to be bombarded with direct mail and phone messages in the last days of the campaign.

In campaign lingo, it's called setting up a "phone tree" in which church-going supporters of a candidate call their friends asking them to vote.

Randy Page, spokesman for Beasley, said getting access to church lists ahead of the primary is "definitely worth something" on election day and added that it's another necessary facet of the

race.

Beasley said the biggest payoff comes from going directly to the churches.

"If you are going to be engaged in politics in South Carolina, you have to be very attuned to the faith factor," he said. "They expect to see you, and if you don't show up, some may think, 'He doesn't care about us.' "

The winner of the Republican primary likely will face Democrat state Superintendent of Education Inez Tenenbaum in November. She faces little-known challenger Ben Frasier of Wadmalaw Island on June 8.

Schuyler Kropf covers state and local politics. Contact him at 937-5551 or skropf@postandcourier.com.

Copyright © 2004, The Post and Courier, All Rights Reserved.
Comments about our site, write: webmaster@postandcourier.com

MyrtleBeachOnline.com

Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

TOURISM NUMBERS

Visitor estimates revised

Strand, S.C. struggle to accurately track market

By Dawn Bryant
The Sun News

The Grand Strand had fewer tourists in recent years than area leaders reported and suffered more from the 2001 terrorist attacks than previous statistics showed.

About 12.7 million tourists came to the beach in 2002, not 14 million as the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce had previously reported. Statistics for 2003 aren't yet available.

With Myrtle Beach and other S.C. destinations struggling to get firm tourism numbers, state officials are starting to develop a standard statewide formula.

The discrepancy in the Grand Strand numbers surfaced after comparing previous visitor numbers with those listed in the chamber's latest annual Statistical Abstract, a publication that gives an economic snapshot of the Grand Strand.

The revised figures come from Virginia-based, travel industry research firm D.K. Shifflet & Associates, which the chamber hired to double check the numbers.

"We never could justify [14 million]. We just didn't feel comfortable with that anymore," chamber President Brad Dean said. "We've just got more accurate sources now."

The S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism plans to form a task force within six months to create a standard formula for the state and its counties to use. The goal is to have a uniform system in place in two years, said Julie Flowers, senior research manager at PRT.

The issue highlights the problem destinations across the country have in trying to track tourism.

With a hodgepodge of number-crunching methods among destinations, the results can create confusion when trying to compare counties and regions. It also creates doubt in how accurately tourism leaders are tracking the state's top industry, which officials say generates \$14.5 billion annually. The state gets 28 million visitors a year.

"It's a moving target. There really is not a foolproof way to do it," Flowers said. "We want to tackle this problem."

The PRT wants to develop a standard system so it can present solid, matching data for its regions. The legislature and other governing bodies are increasingly demanding accountability, Flowers said.

"It's becoming more important that we [as a state] are consistent internally," she said.

Comparing methods

The changes to Myrtle Beach's visitor numbers didn't affect tourism's estimated economic impact, which stays at about \$5 billion a year. And the Grand Strand's place as the leader in the state's tourism industry doesn't change, either.

The chamber's previous formula based the numbers on occupancy rates, accommodations tax collections, retail sales and national inflation rates. It only worked well when the numbers went up, Dean said.

Shifflet's method is more scientific and precise, he said.

Formed in 1982, Shifflet is considered one of the top tourism tracking companies in the industry. Clients include 40 hotel

brands, 70 destination organizations and major theme parks including Disney, Busch Entertainment and Universal Studios.

Shifflet revised the Grand Strand visitor statistics from 1996 to 2002.

Among the changes:

Declines in the number of visitors during 1997 and 2001. Original reports showed modest growth of about 100,000 people in 1997, and officials had said 2001 was a flat year.

The 2001 terrorist attacks and lagging economy had a more drastic effect on the Grand Strand than originally thought. About 1.9 million fewer people visited that year.

The Grand Strand had greater growth in 1999 and 2000. Visitor numbers those years ticked up slightly, by about 100,000 people.

Though the changes might cause concern initially, it will pay off having an independent firm produce the statistics, said Shep Guyton, chamber chairman. Officials will have more credible numbers to use in recruiting businesses and airlines, he said.

"It's hard to refute because we aren't producing them," Guyton said.

Who are the tourists?

One of the stumbling blocks in compiling visitor numbers is defining a tourist. That determines whether you count day-trippers, drivers who stop as they pass through town or residents from neighboring counties who come for dinner or shopping.

Last week, new visitor numbers in Hillsborough County, Fla., raised eyebrows when they showed the county's tourism had grown three times bigger than Pinellas County, which has twice as many hotel rooms as Hillsborough and 30 miles of beach.

Developing a standard measuring system is a priority for Visit Florida, the state's main tourism promoter.

Other states and destinations also struggle to find a solution, said Jason Swanson, executive director of Atlanta-based Tourism Development Specialists, a firm that helps destinations with strategic planning.

"There's no absolute way to measure it," he said. "It's just a lot of ambiguous questions that there are no widely accepted answers to."

Jason Swanson | Tourism Development Specialists

Contact **DAWN BRYANT** at dbryant@thesunnews.com or 626-0296.

MyrtleBeachOnline.com

Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

THIS WEEK IN THE LEGISLATURE

Appeals Court race too close to call

Liquor, fireworks bills move through Capitol

By Zane Wilson
The Sun News

COLUMBIA - Local legislators say it's still too close to call whether Circuit Judge Paula Thomas of Pawleys Island will be elected to the state Appeals Court on Tuesday.

Legislators, who elect judges, set 12:15 p.m. Tuesday for the election of two new Appeals Court judges.

Thomas is running against Family Court Judge Bruce Williams of Columbia for one seat. Marion County Family Court Judge Mary Buchan withdrew Thursday from the race for the other seat in contention.

Buchan has tried several times for a seat on the court. Each time, the Judicial Merit Selection Commission has found her well-qualified; but each time, she also has faced political forces she could not overcome.

This time, the race she was in pits Circuit Judge Casey Manning, who is black, against Circuit Judge Paul Short, who is married to state Sen. Linda Short, D-Chester.

With legislators under great pressure to increase the number of blacks on state benches, most agreed that contest was between Manning and Short, and that Buchan had little chance simply because of who else was in the race.

Rep. Tracy Edge, R-North Myrtle Beach, is running Thomas' campaign in the House along with Rep. Harry Cato, R-Travelers Rest.

"It's still very close," Edge said Friday. Negotiations and campaigning were expected to continue through the weekend.

"There's still a lot of movement going on," Edge said.

Hooters

A bill that Edge sponsored that will allow Hooters Air - or any other airline, for that matter - to buy its liquor in South Carolina passed the House on Thursday and is headed to the Senate.

Danny Brazell, spokesman for the Department of Revenue, said current law allows only licensed bars and restaurants to buy liquor for retail service.

The bill allows airlines to buy a license similar to those granted to bars and restaurants.

Even though Atlanta-based Hooters Air could probably buy liquor in its other locations, Edge said, the company wanted to be able to buy it in Myrtle Beach for convenience.

Besides, Hooters owner Bob Brooks is a Longs native and likes to help the local economy, Edge said.

"They want to spend their money in South Carolina, so who can argue with that?" Edge said.

Fireworks

A bill allowing locations outside of cities some control of fireworks passed Thursday and is awaiting Gov. Mark Sanford's

signature.

"I'm excited about it," said Rep. Alan Clemmons, R-Myrtle Beach, who sponsored the bill.

The freshman Clemmons started with the bill early last year, taking the same tack that has failed for some 20 years: giving counties the same right that cities have to control fireworks.

But the fireworks industry always fought off that proposal. This time, the industry has helped work out a compromise because of fears of what could happen at densely populated places such as Shore Drive.

Fires at some Shore Drive condominiums set off by fireworks several years ago spurred residents to keep pressing local legislators for relief.

The bill allows property owners, including condo associations, to post their premises as fireworks-free and register them as such with local police. That gives police cause to enforce the law if it is broken.

The bill also allows properties to extend the fireworks-free zone into adjacent public areas, such as beaches or roads, if they receive permission from the local government to do so.

"I think it's a reasonable change and it's one that ensures due process to the public," Clemmons said.

School tax referendum

A bill whizzed through the House last week that allows Horry County Schools to call a referendum on a 1-cent sales tax that would be used to offset property taxes for school construction.

Legislators said the school district asked for the bill. Rep. Liston Barfield, R-Aynor, sponsored the bill. It will be on the Senate agenda this week.

Next week

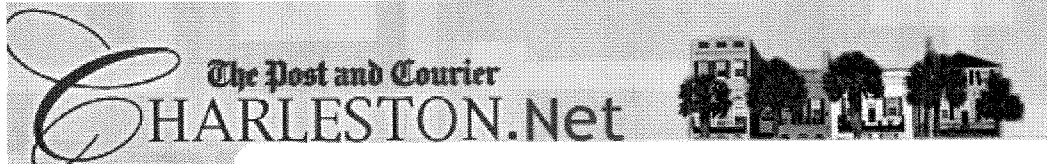
The minibottle referendum bill could be debated Tuesday afternoon. Supporters are nervous that it will not get the required two-thirds vote, even though the same measure passed 90-10 last year.

The House is voting on it again because it is the Senate version of the bill, slightly different from the House version. Edge said some House members are grumbling that the Senate should have accepted their version and that they are not eager to vote for the Senate's bill because the Senate has failed to act on many House bills.

On Wednesday, legislators will have budget vetoes from Gov. Mark Sanford to deal with, if he has any to present.

Contact ZANE WILSON at 520-0397 or zwilson@thesunnews.com.

Subscribe |



Quick Navigation

Classifieds
Weather
Home
User Registration

News

Local News
State/Region
World/Nation
War on Terror
Business
Stock Quotes
The Wire
Archives
Obituaries
Opinion
Columnists

Sports

Sports
High School
Outdoors
Columnists

Special Reports

Brown v. Board
Business Outlook
Good Samaritan
Mission
Sep 11 Lawsuit
Weddings
H.L. Hunley
Summer Camps

Features

Arts & Travel
Book Reviews
Home & Gardens
Life
Religion
Health & Science
Schools Plus
Ink (for teens)
Food
Family Life
Fashion
High Profile
Automotive
Homes & Real Estate
Columnists

Entertainment

TV Listings
Preview

Charleston.Net > News > State/Region



EMAIL THIS STORY



PRINT THIS STORY

Story last updated at 6:59 a.m. Sunday, May 23, 2004

Stringing bills together can tangle up legislative issues

FROM THE STATEHOUSE

BY CLAY BARBOUR

Of The Post and Courier Staff

COLUMBIA--Please allow me to introduce you to Mr. Bob Tail.

I'm sure, if you follow the goings-on at the Statehouse, you've heard of him.

He's an interesting fellow, a bit of an enigma. You need a stalled bill to move, he's your man.

He is popular and despised, useful and denigrated, depending on whether he's working for or against you.

You see, Bob's job is to attach pieces of legislation, via amendments. He can bring together pieces of legislation as varied as night and day. Want a culinary arts program to join legislation for statewide capital investment? No problem. Want to keep gay people from marrying and prevent state agencies from hiring lobbyists? Piece of cake.

Unfortunately, Bob has taken it on the chin in the past few months. Powerful people, such as Gov. Mark Sanford and Senate President Pro Tem Glen McConnell, R-Charleston, have called him out repeatedly.

When Sanford vetoed the Life Sciences Act, an economic development bill that included more than 20 pieces of loosely connected legislation, who got the blame?

Bob Tail, of course.



advanced search



homes



jobs



news

ADVERTISING



SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad:

Local Jobs (399)

Area Homes (1582)

New and Used Autos



HOMES



JOBS



AUTOS

→ VIEW ALL ADS

→ SUBMIT AN AD

SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad

JOB SEEKER!

BE SURE TO BROWSE
DISPLAY ADS

The Post and Courier

BECAUSE KNOWING
MAKES A DIFFERENCE.



STATE/REGION

[GOP Senate candidates hit circuit to court voters](#)

[Stringing bills together can tangle legislative issues](#)

[Thurmond's biracial daughter brother for 1st time](#)

[Inmate, woman charged with in Allendale prison shooting](#)

[Former chief executive settles investors lawsuits](#)

Movies
Dining Guide

Interact

Internet Access Net
Gateway
Feedback
Customer Service
About Us

Directories

Advertising
Rate Card

Classifieds
Real Estate
Employment
Transportation

Governments
Tips for Tourists
Summer Guide

When McConnell fought off a primary seat belt bill for six weeks, stalling the Senate, who got the rap for sneaking the bill into the chamber?

Once again, Bob Tail.

Finally, Wednesday, just an hour or so after McConnell took the Senate floor to engage in a little Bob bashing, Speaker of the House David Wilkins, R-Greenville, came down from his podium for just the second time this year. He was tired of people bashing Bob one minute and then using him for their own means the next.

"We might pass a bill 124 to nothing, yet one member in the Senate thwarts the will of 169 members," Wilkins said. "So we stand by (Bob Tail). I defend (him). When the Senate changes their rules, when the majority governs over there and they can take up bills like we take up bills, we don't need (him). But while the majority of one rules the Senate, we're going to (work with Bob Tail) and we're going to do this if I have anything to do with it -- it's the only way to operate."

Hey, don't worry about Bob too much. Word out of the Senate is he will be used to help the governor get his controversial income tax reduction plan to the floor for debate. Which, I guess, means Bob will be back in the good graces of Sanford and McConnell. Until next time, anyway.

BLOWING WIND

In all seriousness, the issue of bobtailing bills is bringing the session-long tension between the House and Senate to a boil.

With only two weeks to go, both houses are blaming one another for the legislative gridlock in Columbia.

This came to a head when McConnell took to the floor of the Senate to highlight a bill sent from the House with multiple amendments attached (see Mr. Bob Tail). He pointed out over and over that the bill came from the same people who earlier passed anti-bobtailing legislation.

A few hours later, in the House, Wilkins took to the floor to point out that the Senate has been legislative quicksand this year, a fact that has forced House members to use bobtailing to have bills dealt with. He told members that 64 House bills were sitting on the Senate calendar, with one senator objecting to them.

Under Senate rules, one senator can do a lot to slow down a bill's progress.

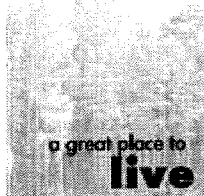
Wilkins read off a list of bills, such as tort reform, income tax relief and the ban on same sex marriages. He ended each statement with "Pending in the Senate." Fellow House members quickly joined the chorus.

"And yet today, because of the strong work ethic of this House, today since 10 this morning, you have passed 14 Senate bills and

[Book signing brings York rio together again](#)

[STATE REPORT](#)

[S.C. LOTTERY](#)



eight House bills," Wilkins said.

Later, McConnell released a list of 45 Senate bills yet to be dealt with by the House. "I hear the winds of war blowing here," he said.

TATTOO YOU

Got ink?

Well, now you can get some. The House and Senate approved a compromise bill Thursday that will bring legalized tattooing back to South Carolina. That's right, no more driving across state lines or getting work done illegally in dingy hotel rooms. Soon there will be a tattoo parlor close to you, providing of course, the governor signs the bill.

The bill bans tattooing for people younger than 18, and requires a parent's permission for those between 18 and 21. It also bans tattooing the face, neck and head.

Here are some tips for those of you who want to get a tattoo when it becomes legal:

-- Never drink before getting a tattoo. You can't lie to your friends about your actions. There will be proof.

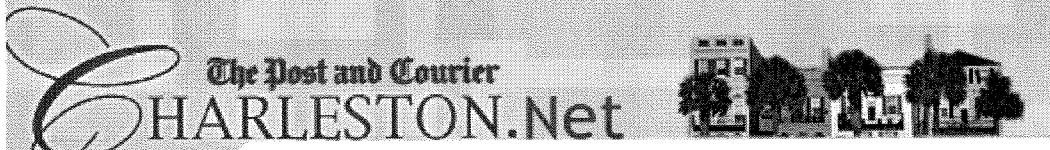
-- An ironic sense of humor is great, but not when it comes to tattooing. If you are a big tough guy, getting a daisy on your posterior will not seem as funny to others as it was to you.

-- Remember, when you're 60, that naked lady on your forearm will be hard to explain. My mom learned that the hard way.

Clay Barbour covers the Statehouse. Contact him at (803) 799-9051 or at cbarbour@postandcourier.com.

Copyright © 2004, The Post and Courier, All Rights Reserved.
Comments about our site, write: webmaster@postandcourier.com

Subscribe |



Quick Navigation

Classifieds
Weather
Home
User Registration

News

Local News
State/Region
World/Nation
War on Terror
Business
Stock Quotes
The Wire
Archives
Obituaries
Opinion
Columnists

Sports

Sports
High School
Outdoors
Columnists

Special Reports

Brown v. Board
Business Outlook
Good Samaritan
Mission
Sep 11 Lawsuit
Weddings
H.L. Hunley
Summer Camps

Features

Arts & Travel
Book Reviews
Home & Gardens
Life
Religion
Health & Science
Schools Plus
Ink (for teens)
Food
Family Life
Fashion
High Profile
Automotive
Homes & Real Estate
Columnists

Entertainment

TV Listings
Preview

Charleston.Net > News > State/Region

STATE/REGION The Post and Courier



Story last updated at 6:59 a.m. Sunday, May 23, 2004

Inmate, woman charged with conspiracy in Allendale prison shooting

Associated Press

COLUMBIA--An inmate who was shot at Allendale Correctional Institution last month is one of two people charged with smuggling a gun into the prison, the state Department of Corrections said.

Dean Ford, 29, and Jessica Monique Hanna, 29, of Lancaster have been charged with criminal conspiracy. Ford and another inmate were wounded in the April 18 shooting.

Corrections officials say Ford and Hanna arranged to sneak the gun into the prison.

Neither prison nor State Law Enforcement Division officials would say whether the gun used in the April 18 shooting has been found. The prison, which has come off lockdown in phases since the shooting, was scheduled to resume normal operations this weekend.

SLED is assisting in the investigation to help identify other conspirators, the Corrections Department said.

SLED Chief Robert Stewart said he was not told of the arrests until after they were made. SLED had no involvement in obtaining or serving the warrants, he said.

"We're in the process of discussing proper procedure with Corrections," said Stewart, who plans to meet with Corrections Director Jon Ozmint next week. Under state law, a criminal investigation by other state agencies can be done only with the SLED chief's permission.

SLED began investigating the shooting after requests from state

advanced search



homes



jobs



news

ADVERTISING



SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad:

Local Jobs (399)

Area Homes (1582)

New and Used Autos



HOMES



JOBS



AUTOS

VIEW ALL ADS

SUBMIT AN AD

SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad

JOB SEEKER!
BE SURE TO BROWSE
DISPLAY ADS
The Post and Courier

BECAUSE KNOWING
MAKES A DIFFERENCE.



STATE/REGION

GOP Senate candidates hit circuit to court voters

Stringing bills together can't legislative issues

Thurmond's biracial daughter brother for 1st time

Inmate, woman charged with in Allendale prison shooting

Former chief executive settles investors lawsuits

Movies
Dining Guide

Sens. Mike Fair, R-Greenville, and Ralph Anderson, D-Greenville, both members of the Senate committee that oversees the prison system.

[Book signing brings York rio together again](#)
[STATE REPORT](#)
[S.C. LOTTERY](#)

Interact

Internet Access Net
Gateway
Feedback
Customer Service
About Us

Ozmint had not asked for SLED's help regarding the incident.

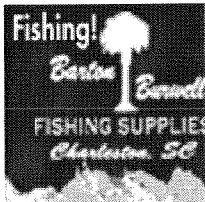
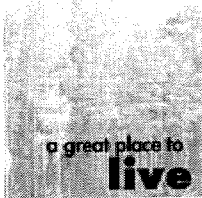
"We should have been involved in the entire matter," Stewart said.

Directories

Advertising
Rate Card

Classifieds
Real Estate
Employment
Transportation

Governments
Tips for Tourists
Summer Guide



Copyright © 2004, The Post and Courier, All Rights Reserved.
Comments about our site, write: webmaster@postandcourier.com



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

S.C. jobs shift from manufacturing to tourism

By AMY GEIER EDGAR
The Associated Press

GEORGETOWN — Lynn Bowers struggles to survive on a \$136-a-week unemployment check.

She has help from her son, but he is dealing with his own financial problems since being laid off from Georgetown Steel.

Bowers, 57, spent about seven years in quality control on the cutting room floor of the apparel plant Fun Tees Inc. Then the company closed its Andrews plant and moved to Mexico.

The closure was a painful repeat for Bowers. She spent 20 years at Oneita Industries before it closed its Andrews plant in the mid-1990s and shipped sewing work outside of the United States.

This time around, Bowers doesn't plan to return to manufacturing. She's taking classes at the Georgetown OneStop Workforce Center to earn her GED and hopes to take a computer course.

The state lost 57,800 manufacturing jobs since President George W. Bush took office in January 2001 to February 2004, according to statistics from the U.S. Labor Department. That's an 18 percent drop in South Carolina, which closely follows a 15.9 percent decrease nationally during the same time.

Meanwhile, tourism has grown, adding 18,200 jobs since 2001. That's up 11 percent in South Carolina, more than double the national rise.

Bowers has no interest a tourism job — which often pays less and has few or no benefits compared with manufacturing.

She's frustrated that Georgetown officials seem more intent on developing tourism along the waterfront than helping workers living blocks away near the shuttered steel mill.

"All they're concerned about is tourism. They don't realize people have to live here, to survive," Bowers said. "They think Georgetown is going to survive on tourism. It's not going to happen."

Marlin Bodison, director of the Georgetown OneStop Workforce Center, advises people not to count on manufacturing jobs.

"Whether our manufacturing jobs are coming back or not, you need to think about your future," he tells displaced workers.

Bodison tells clients to seek jobs that offer some type of service, such as health care, child care or automotive repair. He also tells them their job prospects will improve when they better their education.

The shift from a manufacturing-based economy to a tourism-based economy has been occurring gradually since the mid-1970s, said Sam McClary, a market analyst with the state Employment Security Commission.

Not all manufacturing jobs are leaving. Durable goods manufacturing, like cars and electronics, requires a skilled work force and has held steady, McClary said.

It's the nondurable goods, such as textiles and apparel, that aren't faring well, he said. Through the years, these low-paying jobs have been shipped to places where labor is cheaper and automation has allowed plants to continue production with fewer workers, McClary said.

Meanwhile, trade and services have been expanding. These include the tourism jobs, which line the state's coast. These

same areas are seeing growth in population from retirees.

Manufacturing jobs are mostly inland, and the jobs lost there are not being replaced, said Gov. Mark Sanford. "The pain is not geographically spread," he said.

Rep. Mack T. Hines, D-Florence, knows firsthand the effects of downsizing. Marion County, which he represents, had the state's second-highest highest unemployment rate in April, 17 percent.

In the past few years, Marion County has suffered from low farm commodity prices, declining tobacco production and a series of factory shutdowns.

Unemployment rates were pushed up by the closure of the Russell Stover Candies plant in 2000. Since then, many county residents have commuted to new jobs in Myrtle Beach to the east or Florence to the west.

"Tourism has helped us tremendously," Hines said.

He knows the newer jobs often don't have good benefits, "but when you ain't got nothing, anything's better than nothing."

Many constituents of state Rep. Ken Kennedy, D-Greeleyville, also depend on tourism jobs along the Grand Strand. Each day, a fleet of buses takes people to the resort area about 60 miles away to work in hotels and restaurants, he said.

About 300 people from the area were left without work when the Georgia Pacific plywood plant in neighboring Berkeley County shut down in 2002, Kennedy said. "It ruined our community," he said.

The county has added some call centers, but workers are making less there than they were at the plant.

Williamsburg County, where Kennedy lives, has the state's third-highest jobless rate, at 15.7 percent in April.

"We have people capable of doing manufacturing," he said. "Bring back jobs from Mexico, and we can do it here."

State AFL-CIO president Donna Dewitt also is concerned about the state relying on tourism.

"You can't base an economy on whether we have visitors. We've got to get something in place to ensure we have good manufacturing jobs," she said.

The governor wants more manufacturing jobs tied to the state's existing industries, including the automotive field in the Upstate where BMW produces two top-selling models. He'd also like to see those jobs augmented by an increasing number of small businesses — jobs that don't tend to move overseas.

"Tourism is a strength. It's certainly been a great niche," he said. "But we need a well-diversified economy, period."



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

Lobbying in South Carolina

A by-the-numbers look at what's involved in the daily process of influencing your elected state representatives and senators:

\$13.1 million

What lobbyists and the people they represent spent trying to influence lawmakers in 2003

170

Number of lawmakers in the General Assembly

\$77,257

Amount spent by lobbyists and their clients per lawmaker in 2003

346

Number of lobbyists registered with the State Ethics Commission in 2003

470

Number of "lobbyist's principals" — the companies or groups who hire lobbyists — registered with the Ethics Commission in 2003

SOURCE: The Center for Public Integrity

© 2004 The State and wire service sources. All Rights Reserved.
<http://www.thestate.com>

MyrtleBeachOnline.com

Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

'STATE OF THE SOUTH' STUDY

Report: Region falls short in educating minorities

By Allen G. Breed
The Associated Press

'In the labor market, people with a GED do better than high-school dropouts in both employment and earnings. But compared to high-school graduates, they are less likely to be employed, and when they work, they earn less.'

Report | from MDC Inc.

RALEIGH, N.C. - The fastest-growing segments of the South's population - blacks and Hispanics - are being ill trained for the region's future growth and prosperity, according to a research group's "State of the South" study.

The report from Chapel Hill-based MDC Inc. says too many low-income and minority youth attend "isolated, resource-poor schools" where they cannot get the education they need.

Unless officials do something soon to restructure the region's high schools and public education in general to better serve blacks and Hispanics, the South will lose much of the ground it has gained in recent generations, the group said.

"A new apartheid is gripping Southern education, less visible but just as lethal as the old form," said the MDC report, which was tailored to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision outlawing school segregation.

"Rather than defining difference by race alone, the new inequality reflects demographic, economic, and social forces that influence where we live, who are neighbors are and how our schools perform," the report said. "Much as we might have hoped, the death of legally sanctioned segregation has not yielded full equality in the education Southern children receive."

Occupations requiring a bachelor's degree accounted for 21 percent of all jobs nationally in 2000, MDC reported, citing federal statistics. But 29 percent of the new jobs generated between 2000 and 2010 will require at least a bachelor's degree.

According to MDC, which stands for Making a Difference in Communities, nearly half of the South's Hispanics, and 30 percent of blacks, lack a high-school diploma. And only 13 percent of black adults and 12 percent of Hispanics have a college degree, while 25 percent of white Southerners have one.

The report found that rural Southerners are half as likely as city dwellers to have a bachelor's degree.

And although 77 percent of Southerners have a high-school diploma, just 3 percentage points behind the national average, Southern youths are more likely to get a high-school equivalency diploma, or GED.

"In the labor market, people with a GED do better than high-school dropouts in both employment and earnings," the report said. "But compared to high-school graduates, they are less likely to be employed, and when they work, they earn less."

There are some encouraging signs.

During the 1990s, black college enrollment in the South rose 48 percent, and Hispanic enrollment increased by 70 percent, faster than the same trend nationally. And although high-school graduation rates for blacks and Hispanics in the South were lower than for whites, they were generally better than the national average.

But the MDC researchers warn that there are forces at work that could easily overwhelm these successes.

The group cited a report that found the South home to nearly half of the nation's "disconnected youth" - defined as unmarried 18- to 24-year-olds with a high-school diploma or less who have been unemployed for a year or longer or are incarcerated.

"Nearly 4 in 10 disconnected young men are incarcerated, and the same percent of disconnected young women are raising a child, many as single mothers," the researchers found. And the problem is even worse for blacks.

Among the recommendations the groups makes:

Eliminating high-poverty schools through student assignment and redistricting.

Offering alternative schooling methods to ensure that no child leaves high school unprepared for college work.

Requiring more certified teachers to do service in high-poverty, high-minority schools.

"Whether we become a high-performing, multiracial society, capable of living together harmoniously or we degenerate into a region marked by cross-cultural tension will depend on how well our public schools teach today's youth how to live, learn, and work with people who are different," MDC president David Dodson said.

Mark Musick, president of the Atlanta-based Southern Regional Education Board, said the MDC report was a "welcome focus" on the fact that blacks and Hispanics still lag behind whites in many areas.

"What it shows you is not a pretty picture," he said. "And we haven't been forthright enough in looking at the problem in this way."



Norman leads pack in District 48 fund-raising race

By Erica Pippins The Herald

(Published May 23, 2004)

Ralph Norman has raised four times more money than his two opponents combined in the race for the District 48 state House seat.

The Rock Hill developer's campaign coffers totaled \$37,655, according to reports filed in April with the state. But Norman's huge lead in fund-raising has grown since that time. When he files his updated forms Monday, he believes his donations will total between \$65,000 to \$75,000.

He's also spent more than fellow Republican candidates Michael Johnson and Peggy Upchurch, shelling out roughly more than \$6,000 on everything from brochures to pictures to stamps. Johnson is No. 2 on the list, reporting that he has received \$6,095 for his campaign, while Upchurch's contributions total \$2,848.02. But in contrast to the other two candidates, her campaign has mostly been self-funded.

Voters head to the polls June 8 for the primary election. No Democrat is seeking the seat, so whoever wins the Republican nomination will represent the district the next two years. A runoff would be June 22 if needed.

The candidates are battling for the seat being vacated by Republican Becky Richardson. It has traditionally been a Fort Mill seat, but redistricting in 2000 pushed the district into a portion of northern Rock Hill. The race has emerged as a battle between Rock Hill, Fort Mill and Tega Cay.

Each candidate filed campaign disclosure forms with the State Ethics Commission April 10, as required by law. Candidates are required to file the forms 10 days after receiving or spending \$500. The next report is due Monday.

Of the \$37,655 Norman has received, \$9,500 came out of his own pocket, while \$28,155 came from contributions of \$1,000 or less.

Some of his largest gifts have come from Sen. Wes Hayes, R-Rock Hill, Piedmont Partners, Claude Burns of Burns Chevrolet and John Rinehart of Rinehart Realty, who each contributed \$1,000. York County Councilman Curwood Chappell, Bill C. Beaty Jr. of Comporium Communications and retired Rock Hill doctor Robert Lindemann each gave Norman \$500. Norman reported last month that he had spent \$6,540.54, most of it on signs, stamps and clerical work.

"It's going well. I'm excited and pleased with where we are," Norman said, adding that most of his donations have been unsolicited. He expects to spend all the money he has raised by the end of the campaign.

Johnson, a real estate lawyer, says he has received \$5,350 in contributions, \$600 of which came from small contributions. He donated \$745 to his own campaign, while Cam Halford at Halford Law Firm donated \$250. Johnson said he took his Christmas card list and sent letters to family and friends asking for help.

"There is nothing worse than raising money. The absolute worse part is asking people to give," he said. "It's the largest drawback for people running, but campaigns are not cheap."

Johnson's forms indicate that he didn't have any expenses except his \$208 filing fee, but since April 10, he estimates that he has spent about \$18,000, most of it on mailings and print and television ads.

On the other hand, Upchurch says she has been running a grass-roots race. She reports to have contributed \$2,848.02 of her own money to her campaign. While she hasn't had any fund-raisers, Upchurch says she has received some contributions. She filed a form indicating she had spent \$1,056.02 on signs, flyers, envelopes and other items.

"When I first considered running, I was told I needed \$60,000 for the campaign. With only 2,400 votes in the last primary, that it \$25 per vote," Upchurch said. "I absolutely do not believe in wasteful spending, it runs contrary to my beliefs. I believe voters choose candidates based on their qualifications and desire to serve."

Erica Pippins • 329-4072

epippins@heraldonline.com

Copyright © 2004 The Herald, South Carolina



Need a plumber? Need a roofer?
A Convenient Service of Coldwell Banker Caine



GreenvilleOnline.com
The Greenville News

Home • News • Communities • Entertainment • Classifieds • Coupons • Real estate • Jobs • Cars • Custom publications • Help

Monday

Search



Subscribe Now!
The Greenville News

Legislative Digest: The week's news from the Statehouse

Posted Sunday, May 23, 2004 - 1:03 am

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The 20th week of the legislative session:

State budget: The Legislature wrapped up work on the state's \$5.5 billion budget. Gov. Mark Sanford made a last-minute appeal for changes, including the spending plan's reliance on \$90 million that would be raised through tougher tax collections. Sanford says they should expect, at best, \$50 million.

Legislators mostly ignored Sanford's pitch as the House quickly passed the budget Tuesday. The Senate did the same the next after a procedural delay stalled it.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, hailed it as a good budget that increases public school and Medicaid spending. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bobby Harrell, R-Charleston, noted that the budget includes \$39 million in tax cuts for married couples and \$13 million in estate tax reductions.

Sanford has until midnight Tuesday to decide what he'll veto.

Harrell ads: The budget also contains \$380,000 for the Palmetto Bowl, a football game that would be played at The Citadel, that Harrell pushed.

Americans for Tax Reform, known for its no-new-taxes pledge, launched television ads Wednesday that call it a \$5 million boondoggle. Republicans and Democrats inside and outside the Statehouse rallied to Harrell's defense.

Sanford said the ads "were in poor taste." He questioned his political consultant, Red Sea's Jon Lerner, about the company's involvement with the ads.

Income taxes: Sanford's plans to reduce the state's top income tax rate from 7 percent

[e-mail this story](#)

Top Jobs

The Greenville News
POWERED BY
careerbuilder®

A/V SALES

MICROBIOLOGY TECHNICIAN

RNs

TELEMARKETING

CLASS A CDL DRIVER NEEDED

All Top Jobs

Home
News
Business
Sports
Clemson
USC
Furman
Auto racing
High schools
SAIL swimming
Outdoors
Obituaries
Opinion
Elections
Homes
Health
Education
Features
Flair
Weddings
City People
Nation/World
Technology
Weather
Communities
Entertainment
Classifieds
Coupons
Real estate
Jobs
Cars
Custom
Publications
Help

to 4.75 percent is getting a last-minute assist in the Legislature.

The House tagged the plan onto a parking garage bond bill Wednesday. On Thursday, 24 of the Senate's 27 Republicans said they would amend that bill to deal exclusively with the income tax break.

Those moves put the income tax break ahead of all other issues on the Senate's clogged calendar for Tuesday.

Telephone regulation: A bill aimed at protecting consumers from unauthorized phone service switching now is at the heart of a fight about cutting price regulation for telephone companies.

A filibuster over that measure could take up much of the last six meeting days of the Legislature.

Charter schools: A bill making it easier to create charter schools was sent to the Senate floor Wednesday.

It creates a statewide school district that would oversee the creation of the schools. The House previously approved a different version of the bill.

Currently, only the local school district where a charter school wants to open can approve the special schools. Supporters of charter schools say that has prevented more of them from opening.

Environmental crimes: Time is running out for a bill that would expand the State Grand Jury's powers to include the investigation of environmental crimes.

A Senate subcommittee did not vote Tuesday on the bill, and the Senate has just two weeks to approve the measure before the Legislature adjourns.

Thurmond daughter: The biracial daughter of the late Sen. Strom Thurmond is close to being recognized in stone on a Statehouse monument to the former governor.

The House and Senate approved a bill that puts Essie Mae Washington Williams' name on the Thurmond monument on the south side of the Statehouse.

Tattoos: People 21 and over will be able to legally get tattoos in South Carolina with a bill that's headed to Sanford's desk.

A conference committee agreed on a compromise bill Thursday lifting the state's tattooing ban.

Minibottles: A Senate bill that would let voters decide if they want bar and restaurants to pour from minibottles or big bottles is headed to the House floor.

The bill had been mired in the House Judiciary Committee. Now it needs a two-thirds vote in the House before voters can decide the fate of minibottles in a November referendum.

Wetlands: The state Transportation Department would not have to comply with laws intended to protect bogs and other isolated wetlands under bills House and Senate committees approved.

The Transportation Department would not need permits to fill isolated wetlands under that legislation. That could speed road construction.

Blan Holman, an attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center, says other states don't grant that type of blanket exemption.



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004The State

Schools' funding must not fall from bad to worse

STATE LAWMAKERS may come up with excuses to argue that state education funding formulas are so complex as to be deceptive. Partisans may seize on any misstep by any State Education Department employee in an attempt to use the schools as a tool in this state's high-profile U.S. Senate race. But taxpayers must be smart enough to see such smoke screens for what they are — an attempt to hide the Legislature's continuing failure to adequately fund basic school operations.

The state budget adopted by lawmakers last week sets South Carolina's base student cost at \$1,852. By law this important building block in state funding for schools should be \$2,234 for the 2004-2005 school year.

The base student cost is just one part of federal, state and local funding for schools. However, it is the very foundation of that mix and cannot be reduced if our children are to be educated for success.

The effect of such underfunding by our state is most devastating in the poorer, rural districts. They do not have the rich property tax base to tap when state funding falls short. Their children begin school behind their urban and suburban peers. They have no chance to catch up, much less to strive for excellence, when their basic classroom needs cannot be met.

In the more property-rich parts of our state, local taxpayers have been making up much of the state's slack. They're mad about that, and often focus their ire mistakenly on local boards and councils. Those local officials are in fact some of the only champions the schools have been able to count on in recent years.

The Legislature's decision to continue scrimping on this important funding formula means classrooms that are more crowded than they should be and schools that are forced to offer fewer services than they need to. This ill-conceived economizing today results in a greater cost to our state, long-term. The children who go through or drop out of substandard school systems become needy adults, individuals unprepared to be successful and productive taxpayers. The folly in this tack is clear. By their unwillingness to cut other spending or to raise state taxes, state lawmakers are merely shifting the remedial costs to the future. And South Carolina will just fall further behind.

In searching for any good words to offer concerning state lawmakers' actions, we can come up with only these: It could be worse.

That is the message we hope that Gov. Mark Sanford will hear as he considers which portions of the state spending plan to veto. Public education — the most important issue in our state — is Gov. Sanford's greatest weakness, the area in which he has the least experience and has exhibited the least willingness to get up to speed. Gov. Sanford has a penchant for offering ill-informed proposals on public education and for condemning programs whose benefit he has never experienced or adequately studied.

South Carolina deserves better from him, and must demand it. Likewise, between now and the legislative session that starts in January, voters must rise up and let everyone in the State House know that we won't stand for their shortchanging our schools any more. In the meantime, our children will just keep falling behind, for the politicians have let them down again.

Companion at
Crescent Pointe
 Luxury Apartments

"Where Community
 Comes First"



GreenvilleOnline.com
 The Greenville News

Home • News • Communities • Entertainment • Classifieds • Coupons • Real estate • Jobs • Cars • Custom publications • Help
 Submit an ad • Your Source Classifieds • ShoppingXpress
 Monday

Search



Subscribe Now!

The Greenville News

Jim DeMint on June 8

Posted Sunday, May 23, 2004 - 12:52 am

Home

News

Business

Sports

Clemson

USC

Furman

Auto racing

High schools

SAIL swimming

Outdoors

Obituaries

Opinion

Elections

Homes

Health

Education

Features

Flair

Weddings

City People

Nation/World

Technology

Weather

Communities

Entertainment

Classifieds

Coupons

Real estate

Jobs

Cars

Custom

Publications

Help

DeMint has served the 4th District well. He embodies solid conservative values and offers thoughtful leadership.

If the Republican primary were solely about nominating a U.S. Senate candidate who reflects the conservative values that animate and define Republicans in this state, voters could pull the lever on June 8 for one of several candidates and get a good night's sleep. The major candidates in this primary — former Gov. David Beasley, former state attorney general Charlie Condon, political newcomer Thomas Ravenel and 4th District Rep. Jim DeMint — have solid conservative credentials.

Even more, these leading candidates — along with Myrtle Beach Mayor Mark McBride and Bluffton resident Orly Benny Davis — more or less agree on most major issues. It takes the issue of trade to produce notable difference among the candidates.

This Republican primary should be about more than selecting a reliable conservative candidate or finding someone who is "right" on trade, regardless of how important that issue is. The June 8 Republican primary should be about selecting a Senate candidate who has the ability to help shape the national agenda on the major issues facing this country. The Republican winner will face opposition in November, including the likely Democratic nominee, state Superintendent of Education Inez Tenenbaum.

Jim DeMint of Greenville, who is finishing his third term in Congress, has proven he can make a significant contribution in Washington and that he won't buckle under pressure. This newspaper recommended DeMint's election six years ago during a tough Republican primary runoff, and it does so again in this Senate race in which DeMint faces stiff competition.

 [e-mail this story](#)

 [discuss this issue in our forums](#)

Top Jobs

The Greenville News

POWERED BY
careerbuilder

Warehouse Supervisor

Instructor/Training Coordinator

MICROBIOLOGY TECHNICIAN

RNs

TECHNICIAN

[All Top Jobs](#)

Throughout the past six years, Jim DeMint has eloquently described what he believes should be the relationship between the federal government and the American people. He sought office to stem the tide of increased dependence on a federal government that has assumed more control in more areas of the lives of Americans. But DeMint has been about more than producing thoughtful ideas and leading an interesting discussion; he's been about action.

As someone who spent his life in the business world before running for Congress when he was 47 years old, DeMint gained firsthand knowledge of how the federal government can either encourage or discourage personal independence and self-reliance. His marketplace experiences have fueled his effort to give Americans more control over their lives.

He has been at the forefront of pushing for Social Security reform that will guarantee the benefits of seniors but allow younger workers the option of creating personal savings accounts. He has been a strong fiscal conservative, supporting President Bush on tax cuts but also showing extraordinary courage by opposing the president's outrageously expensive prescription drug plan for seniors. DeMint appropriately has backed a scaled-down prescription drug benefit for truly needy senior citizens.

DeMint has worked to make this nation more competitive and health care more affordable by voting for tort reform and medical liability reform and by working to end excessive regulations. DeMint's fingerprints can be found on several major initiatives, including the creation of health savings accounts and the expansion of health-care flexible spending accounts. Each of these measures seeks to put more power in the hands of health-care consumers by giving them more control over their health-care dollars and more freedom in decisions concerning health-care decisions. Such measures are vintage DeMint.

The Republican field differs most conspicuously on the matter of trade, and this issue has been used against DeMint by several of his opponents. Ravenel, though, freely admits he is a free trader.

DeMint voted to give the president trade negotiating authority and he voted for permanent normal trade relations with China. Those votes reflect his belief — a belief shared by this newspaper — that our country must participate fully in the dynamic global economy. The United States must focus on creating more access to foreign markets, removing obstacles to competitiveness here at home and producing a better-educated work force.

Jim DeMint is a proven leader who has spent six years working on real solutions to major problems that this country must address. Republican voters should make sure he represents their party on the November ballot.

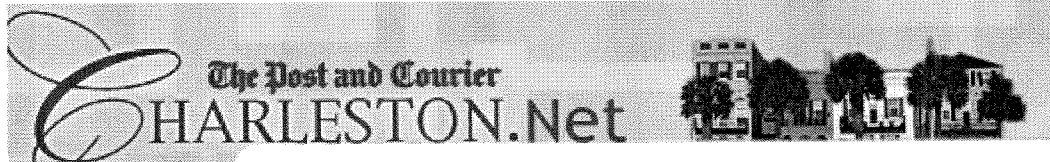


[news](#) | [communities](#) | [entertainment](#) | [classifieds](#) | [real estate](#) | [jobs](#) | [cars](#) | [customer services](#)

Copyright 2003 [The Greenville News](#). Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) (updated 12/17/2002).



Subscribe |



Quick Navigation

Classifieds
Weather
Home
User Registration

News

Local News
State/Region
World/Nation
War on Terror
Business
Stock Quotes
The Wire
Archives
Obituaries
Opinion
Columnists

Sports

Sports
High School
Outdoors
Columnists

Special Reports

Brown v. Board
Business Outlook
Good Samaritan
Mission
Sep 11 Lawsuit
Weddings
H.L. Hunley
Summer Camps

Features

Arts & Travel
Book Reviews
Home & Gardens
Life
Religion
Health & Science
Schools Plus
Ink (for teens)
Food
Family Life
Fashion
High Profile
Automotive
Homes & Real
Estate
Columnists

Entertainment

TV Listings
Preview

[Charleston.Net](#) > [Opinion](#) > [Editorials](#)


EDITORIALS The Post and Courier



EMAIL THIS STORY



PRINT THIS STORY

Story last updated at 6:41 a.m. Sunday, May 23, 2004

Saving the Conservation Bank

The restoration of full funding to the Conservation Bank by the Legislature attests to the importance of preserving environmentally important land from development, throughout South Carolina. The allocation is a modest beginning for an important state initiative.

The bank will be funded by a portion of the sale of documentary stamps required in land transactions. This year, the bank is expected to receive \$10 million.

But the Conservation Bank board and its single staffer hope to leverage far greater gains from private and public sources. The success of the ACE Basin Task Force will serve as a model.

The ACE Basin initiative has managed to preserve more than 160,000 acres, largely through private conservation easements. The nature preserve has achieved success with the help of federal, state and local governments.

Charles Lane, who led the ACE Basin Task Force and is now chairman of the Conservation Bank Board, cites the acquisition of a portion of Prospect Hill plantation on Edisto Island, using local and state park funds, as an example of what the Conservation Bank hopes to achieve. Purchase of the plantation, on the north edge of the ACE Basin, encouraged adjacent landowners to grant conservation easements on 4,000 acres.

Mr. Lane says that the \$10 million allocation for the Conservation Bank can be expected similarly to achieve far greater returns through judicious use of its resources. Certainly, the bank's bare bones operation so far suggests there will be no money wasted on overhead.

The Conservation Bank appeared to be in danger of losing its dedicated funding this year, and Mr. Lane credits the support of the state Chamber of Commerce and Board of Realtors, as well



advanced search



homes



jobs



news

ADVERTISING



SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad:

Local Jobs (399)

Area Homes (1582)

New and Used Autos



HOMES



JOBS



AUTOS

→ VIEW ALL ADS

→ SUBMIT AN AD

SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad

JOB SEEKERS!

BE SURE TO BROWSE
DISPLAY ADS

The Post and Courier

BECAUSE KNOWING
MAKES A DIFFERENCE.



EDITORIALS

[Inexcusable grand jury bill](#)

[The president's critical add](#)

[Grab and wave the flag](#)

[LETTERS TO THE EDITOR](#)

OPINION

Movies
Dining Guide

as the environmental community, in keeping it alive. Last-minute estimates of surplus revenue helped assure full funding.



Click here to
Letter to the
online.

Interact
Internet Access Net
Gateway
Feedback
Customer Service
About Us

Rep. Bobby Harrell, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, deserves credit for supporting in conference committee the use of \$5 million in surplus funds for the renourishment of Hunting Island State Park. That money originally was expected to come from the Conservation Bank.

Or e-mail letters@postandcourier.com

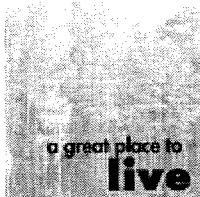
Directories
Advertising
Rate Card

That shift in support for Hunting Island helped ensure that the Conservation Bank will be able to use its full resources, with no legislative strings attached. If it is to operate at maximum effectiveness, conservation decisions should be made by the bank board, not the Legislature, now and in the future.

Classifieds
Real Estate
Employment
Transportation

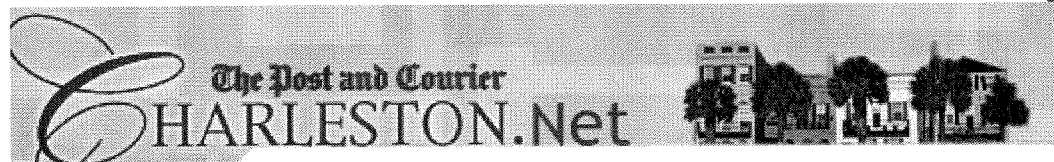
The Conservation Bank is a trust fund, and its dedicated source of revenue should be maintained so that it can accomplish its mandate. Its value should quickly become evident as valuable habitat and scenic land is secured for perpetuity in public trust.

Governments
Tips for Tourists
Summer Guide



Copyright © 2004, The Post and Courier, All Rights Reserved.
Comments about our site, write: webmaster@postandcourier.com

Subscribe |



Quick Navigation

Classifieds
Weather
Home
User Registration

News

Local News
State/Region
World/Nation
War on Terror
Business
Stock Quotes
The Wire
Archives
Obituaries
Opinion
Columnists

Sports

Sports
High School
Outdoors
Columnists

Special Reports

Brown v. Board
Business Outlook
Good Samaritan
Mission
Sep 11 Lawsuit
Weddings
H.L. Hunley
Summer Camps

Features

Arts & Travel
Book Reviews
Home & Gardens
Life
Religion
Health & Science
Schools Plus
Ink (for teens)
Food
Family Life
Fashion
High Profile
Automotive
Homes & Real
Estate
Columnists

Entertainment

TV Listings
Preview

[Charleston.Net](#) > [Opinion](#) > [Editorials](#)


EDITORIALS The Post and Courier



EMAIL THIS STORY



PRINT THIS STORY

Story last updated at 6:41 a.m. Sunday, May 23, 2004

Zoning next step for tattoo parlors

A bill to legalize tattooing in South Carolina includes a variety of restrictions to guarantee health and safety, but a key provision for local control was unfortunately dropped before its passage. Consequently, local jurisdictions won't have the authority to deny the operation of tattoo parlors, no matter how strongly they might be opposed. Local elected officials will be forced to use the zoning code to limit their operation.

That decision presumably will immediately affect the city of Folly Beach, where city council recently voted to ban tattoo parlors. In doing so, council members were making a clear statement about their expectations for the town.

While some resort communities might welcome the tattoo business, Folly Beach chose otherwise. City officials should consult with the state municipal association to determine how best to achieve their goal within the new law.

Rep. John Graham Altman, R-Charleston, inserted an amendment in the House bill to allow local governments to require more stringent rules than the state over the controversial operations. But it was removed in conference committee after Senate backers opposed the local veto.

The reported prevalence of illegal tattoo parlors convinced many legislators to finally make the practice legal in South Carolina, subject to oversight by the Department of Health and Environmental Control. It is to be hoped that the elimination of Rep. Altman's provision won't create difficulties for local jurisdictions that wanted a stronger voice in the process.



advanced search



homes



jobs



news

ADVERTISING



SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad

Local Jobs (399)

Area Homes (1582)

New and Used Autos



HOMES



JOBS



AUTOS



VIEW ALL ADS



SUBMIT AN AD

SEE TODAY'S AD

Today's Newspaper Ad

JOB SEEKERS

BE SURE TO BROWSE
DISPLAY ADS

The Post and Courier

BECAUSE KNOWING
MAKES A DIFFERENCE.



EDITORIALS

[Inexcusable grand jury bill](#)

[The president's critical add](#)

[Grab and wave the flag](#)

[LETTERS TO THE EDITOR](#)

OPINION

Movies
Dining Guide

Interact

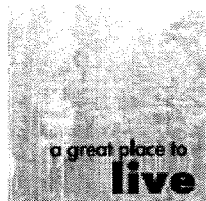
Internet Access Net
Gateway
Feedback
Customer Service
About Us

Directories

Advertising
Rate Card

Classifieds
Real Estate
Employment
Transportation

Governments
Tips for Tourists
Summer Guide



Click [here](#) to
Letter to the
online.

Or e-mail letters@postandcourier.com

Copyright © 2004, The Post and Courier, All Rights Reserved.
Comments about our site, write: webmaster@postandcourier.com



Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

Margin of victory key in primary

By LEE BANDY
Staff Writer

The Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate is David Beasley's to lose.

The key measure will be the former governor's vote total in the June 8 primary.

Beasley and five other Republicans are seeking the party's nomination for the Senate seat being vacated by retiring Democrat Fritz Hollings.

The consensus among party officials and political experts is that Beasley must win 40 to 45 percent of the vote June 8, or he could be in trouble.

"Anything less would be a sign of weakness," Winthrop University political scientist Scott Huffmon said.

The runoff — with six candidates one is all but assured — would be June 22.

The Beasley campaign is reluctant to play the expectations game. His rivals are "trying to put a happy face on losing in advance," said Richard Quinn, consultant and pollster for Beasley.

With four of the top candidates spending close to \$10 million on their campaigns, the bulk of it for media, it is "really kind of silly" to expect one of the challengers to get almost half the vote, Quinn said. "It's just not going to happen."

In a tracking poll of 467 likely Republican primary voters taken by Quinn on May 11, Beasley was winning 40 percent of the vote, to 18 percent for U.S. Rep. Jim DeMint, 11 percent for Charleston real estate developer Thomas Ravenel and 9 percent for former state Attorney General Charlie Condon. Nineteen percent were undecided. The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 4.7 percent.

"All we need is to be in the runoff," Quinn said. "All our polling shows David wins against any of the candidates."

And what percentage of the vote will Beasley get in the initial primary?

"We'll probably be in the mid-30s," Quinn said, attempting to lower expectations.

Rod Shealy, a Ravenel consultant, says Beasley must win it all in the initial primary, otherwise he's history.

"He almost has to win the first round to be home free," Shealy said. "He is virtually the incumbent. A former governor with as much name recognition as he has cannot come in with less than a first-ballot victory. If he does, it would be difficult for him to recover."

The sleeper in the race could be Ravenel. He is expected to spend \$3 million of his own money, mostly for media.

Campaign polls show him coming on fast. He has overtaken Condon for third place and is closing on DeMint for second.

"It has been a ho-hum primary thus far. And that kind of setting is tailor-made for someone like Ravenel," Francis Marion University professor Neal Thigpen said. "We could have a photo finish between DeMint and Ravenel."

Beasley has been sitting on his lead. He hasn't exhibited a whole lot of energy on the campaign trail. He has skipped several candidate forums. Voters have inquired about his whereabouts. Some have felt neglected.

"For him to maintain his front-running position, he should have shown the flag more than he has," Thigpen said.

In 1998, DeMint came in second in his first run for Congress. State Sen. Mike Fair, his opponent, had the backing of some big names in the Christian right community. DeMint narrowly made the runoff, 32-23 percent. But he prevailed in the runoff, winning 53 percent of the vote. He might have to duplicate that feat once again.

"We're a state that loves underdogs," said Terry Sullivan, campaign manager for DeMint. "And we think much more about momentum than standing. It's going to be a competitive race, and I feel good we're going to make it into the runoff. We're getting lot of traction."

Keep your eyes on Beasley and his margin in the June 8 primary. It could determine his fortunes in the runoff.

© 2004 The State and wire service sources. All Rights Reserved.
<http://www.thestate.com>

How-To Guide 2004



GreenvilleOnline.com
The Greenville News

Home • News • Communities • Entertainment • Classifieds • Coupons • Real estate • Jobs • Cars • Custom publications • Help

Monday

Search



Subscribe Now!

The Greenville News

Richardson's 'Southern strategy' comment chills state Democrats

Posted Sunday, May 23, 2004 - 12:52 am

Home

News

Business

Sports

Clemson

USC

Furman

Auto racing

High schools

SAIL swimming

Outdoors

Obituaries

Opinion

Elections

Homes

Health

Education

Features

Flair

Weddings

City People

Nation/World

Technology

Weather

Communities

Entertainment

Classifieds

Coupons

Real estate

Jobs

Cars

Custom

Publications

Help

Question: Who can throw cold water on South Carolina Democrats the fastest?

(A) George W. Bush

(B) John Kerry

(C) Ralph Nader

(D) None of the above

The answer is "D."

Specifically, New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, who's on Kerry's reputed short list for running mate and who will chair this summer's Democratic National Convention in Boston.

Richardson was the keynote speaker at the state Democratic Party's Jefferson-Jackson Day fund-raiser on April 30.


Among his remarks in Columbia was this:

"It's important that we not forsake a Southern strategy. You can't run a non-South campaign."

So far, so good.

On May 9, readers of *The New York Times Magazine* were treated to a very different appraisal from Richardson.

"I don't think it's realistic for us to have a Southern strategy. We should concentrate on either a Western strategy — a Western/Hispanic strategy — which is basically Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and Florida, or we should try to pick off one or two states in the Midwest.

 e-mail this story

Dan Hoover

- [Richardson's 'Southern strategy' comment chills state Democrats \(05/23/04\)](#)
- [Tenenbaum's candidacy targeted in two-pronged GOP attack \(05/16/04\)](#)
- [Senate spat may reflect runoff struggle \(05/08/04\)](#)
- [South holds Senate key in November \(05/02/04\)](#)
- [Next Campbell moving politically \(04/18/04\)](#)

Top Jobs

The Greenville News

POWERED BY

careerbuilder®

DRIVERS FOR TEAM OPERATIONS

Job Title: Technical Support Agent

Assistant General Manager Join

TECHNICIAN

LOW-BOY OPERATOR

All Top Jobs

Look elsewhere

"Those have to be the two options to win the presidency," he told the nationally distributed magazine.

Richardson seemed to be saying publicly what Democratic presidential campaigns of the last generation have been quietly doing in practice as the once "Solid South" moved to the GOP.

To Brandon Brown, who's running for the 4th Congressional District's Democratic nomination, Richardson is endorsing the "wrong approach."

"You have to win in the South to be elected," Brown said, adding that he has concerns about weakening the region's voice within the party.

Terry McAuliffe, the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, told *The Times* that Richardson had a "valid point, (but) I'd never say it" publicly.

Hispanic strategy

Richardson's comments appear to be rooted in a belief that the party must focus on attracting the fast-growing Hispanic populations of the Southwest and California, among whom Bush has won minority but strong showings.

Those states would then be added to Democratic bastions in the Pacific coast, Northeast and industrialized Midwest.

But the South is also a fast-growing region with its own Hispanic populations, although their voter registration percentages remain low.

The implications of a Democratic bug-out in the South extend beyond the White House: Across the South, five U.S. Senate seats now held by Democrats are open because of retirements. In those Republican-leaning states, including South Carolina, Democrats will need all the help they can get from the top of the ticket.

Nothing new

Giving up on the South is nothing new.

Remember 1988 and Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis (like Kerry, from Massachusetts) and his pledge to wage a "50-state campaign."

Well, he came up a few dozen short.

Since then, the only Democrat to win the White House, Arkansas' Bill Clinton, did so with the aid of a mixed bag of Southern states, one that eluded his Vice President Al Gore's bid to move up in 2000.

From Dukakis to Gore, Democratic nominees made only token appearances in South Carolina, and their campaigns were pared to the bone to ship resources to more competitive states.

In the 40 years since Barry Goldwater began moving South Carolina and her sister states into the GOP, Georgia's Jimmy Carter, in 1976, is the lone Democratic nominee to carry this state. He lost it — and his presidency — to Ronald Reagan four years later.

Erwin 'confused'

Joe Erwin, the state Democratic chairman, who warmly greeted Richardson in Columbia

last month, says, "I'm confused," citing diametrically opposing statements by a potential running mate and national convention chairman.

"When he was in Columbia, he talked about the importance of the South. Now these other comments seem to contradict that. I'm not sure" where he stands.

Is Richardson not to be believed in the future?

"I don't know."

Questions of Richardson's credibility aside, Erwin said, "a lot of Democrats are frustrated about the remarks. I've talked to people, good Democrats working real hard for Kerry, and we're all disappointed."

Once the initial irritation and disappointment recede, Erwin said Richardson's remarks, even if they become party strategy, "won't make a huge difference either way."

Going it alone

Erwin said the state party will "treat South Carolina as a battleground state, regardless of who comes in from the outside."

Hastings Wyman, editor of *The Southern Political Report*, said he hates to see anyone write of the region, but doesn't see any Southern state where Kerry has much of a shot, except Florida.

"I don't like the tone of that, but the strategy behind it might make sense," he said.

"If Bush continues to weaken, Kerry might be able to pick up a Southern state or two, but I just don't see it."

Dan Hoover's column appears on Sunday. He can be reached at (864) 298-4883 or toll-free at (800) 274-7879, extension 4883, and by fax at (864) 298-4395.



[news](#) | [communities](#) | [entertainment](#) | [classifieds](#) | [real estate](#) | [jobs](#) | [cars](#) | [customer services](#)

Copyright 2003 [The Greenville News](#). Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) (updated 12/17/2002).



The Greenville News

greenvilleonline.com





Posted on Sun, May. 23, 2004

The State

Single-member districts: the cure that worsens the disease

By BRAD WARTHEN
Editorial Page Editor

TWELVE YEARS ago, when Darrell Jackson was running for the state Senate for the first time, he was invited to speak to a bridge club in the Calhoun County part of his district. The club met at the home of an elderly white lady. Before he left, she told him, "You'll be the first black person I've ever voted for."

He appreciated that, but even more, he appreciated the side effects of campaigning for white votes. Having to ask that lady and her friends for their votes "certainly made me more sensitive to different kinds of people," he said last week. "I discovered that people are more alike than they are different." To find that out, "All you have to do is sit down and talk to them."

This may not sound like any great revelation. But the sad truth is, it's something that few politicians today, black or white, are likely to learn about on the basis of political experience. That's because of the way lawmakers draw electoral districts these days, using increasingly sophisticated computer programs to cram black voters into a few districts, and leaving all other districts looking like Michael Jackson — oddly shaped, and unnaturally white.

Of course, the idea behind these bizarre-looking single-member districts is — or rather, was — to make it more likely that people like Darrell Jackson would have a chance to be elected, given voters' unfortunate tendency to vote for folks who look like them. In fact, the late Sen. Isadore Lourie ended his illustrious career by stepping aside to give Mr. Jackson a chance. He believed it was that important to have more black senators in a state that was one-third black.

It's hard to imagine anyone in the General Assembly making such a gesture today. That's because, thanks to single-member districts, our Legislature is alarmingly polarized along both racial and partisan lines.

Single-member districts have had three main effects: They elected a few black lawmakers, they brought Republicans into power (because when districts are almost perfectly white, which most districts are these days, they trend Republican), and they led to a State House full of people who see themselves quite accurately as elected only by people like themselves, in terms of both skin color and political party. That makes them unlikely to listen to anyone different, and that leads to the bitterness of today's politics.

"When you take all of the black votes out of a district and leave it with no diversity," Sen. Jackson explains, "it changes the way you govern; it changes the way you run."

If you want to see how stark the dichotomy is, just visit the Senate gallery, and look down. When Republicans took over the Senate in 2001 and organized it for the first time along partisan lines — even making Democrats and Republicans sit on different sides of the aisle, Washington-style — the divide became visually inescapable. "I look over at the other side, and it is all white men," says Sen. Jackson.

It isn't entirely impossible to bridge that divide. Sen. Jackson cites Sen. Jim Ritchie of Spartanburg as one of the Republicans with whom he can work, and has worked.

But the prevailing mentality can undermine the best efforts of people of good will. And Sen. Jackson by no means blames the Republicans for all of that. Speaking of a bill he helped sponsor, he said, "The old guard on my side was ready to kill it because it was Jim Ritchie's bill." It wasn't until they learned that it was also Darrell Jackson's bill that some of the Democratic war horses stopped snorting and let the bill go by unmolested. Unfortunately, there are not enough such bipartisan alliances to change the prevailing atmosphere, which remains poisonously partisan.

"There are times when I get pretty frustrated," Sen. Jackson said. "It is as bad as it has ever been."

But partisanship isn't the only thing that frustrates him. The additional tragedy is that the original problem that led to the creation of these homogenized districts still exists (and even worse, is unlikely to go away as long as we keep electing people this way). That was illustrated by a discussion the senator says he had with U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn not

long ago.

While he's got nothing against Inez Tenenbaum, Sen. Jackson was heartbroken that Rep. Clyburn would not even consider seeking the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Fritz Hollings. As Sen. Jackson tells the story, he confronted the congressman about it, asking "Why?"

"Because I can't win."

"Well, why can't you win?"

"Because I'm black."

Exchanges like that keep Sen. Jackson from being able to tell his sons honestly that there is no glass ceiling preventing them from being whatever they want to be. He related another anecdote, about a schoolboy he met who proudly said he wanted to be president someday.

"You can't be elected president," a girl scoffed, causing the boy to hang his head down. "You're black."

"It's one thing for a fifth- or sixth-grader to say that," said Sen. Jackson. "It's another for a U.S. congressman ... to say it."

Is it true that Jim Clyburn can't win the Senate seat? Probably. Is it because he's black? I wish I could say that's not a factor (along with his politics), but I can't. We've seen some progress in that regard in recent years — the at-large election of Tameika Isaac (now Devine) to Columbia City Council offers hope. But the fate of Steve Benjamin's campaign for attorney general argues otherwise.

Sen. Jackson sees progress, too. He points to "my sitting at this table representing a district that Marion Gressette once represented." But he owes his seat to single-member districts, the very phenomenon that trains politicians and voters to think more along partisan and racial lines than they otherwise would.

How do we get to where Darrell Jackson and other black Americans have a true chance to be elected, without furthering racial and ideological apartheid?

We have got to find a better way. Does anyone have Lani Guinier's number handy? As I recall, she had some ideas about alternative paths, and got pilloried for them. Maybe it's about time we gave her a call.

Write to Mr. Warthen at bwarthen@thestate.com.

The Greenville News

Are you interested in giving
The Greenville News as a gift?



GreenvilleOnline.com
The Greenville News

Home • News • Communities • Entertainment • Classifieds • Coupons • Real estate • Jobs • Cars • Custom publications • Help

Monday

Search



Subscribe Now!

The Greenville News

Combining school districts won't benefit students

Posted Sunday, May 23, 2004 - 12:52 am


By Rallie Liston


Smaller districts can operate as efficiently, and they offer advantages for their communities.

State Sen. Luke Rankin of Horry County has proposed legislation to cut the number of school districts in South Carolina from 85 to 46. The Horry County representative would limit each county to a single school district.

The proposal argues that consolidation would 1) provide financial efficiency that would create economies of scale and 2) create additional countywide tax bases and therefore enable large districts to provide smaller class size, better facilities, more rigorous academic offerings and better salaries to attract the best teachers.

This proposal might work for specific districts of the state; however, making such a drastic change statewide could create more harm than benefits. Every district and county should be carefully reviewed and evaluated based on its own merits and achievements. For example, an analysis of Spartanburg County School District 4 (Woodruff — a smaller district), Greenville County Schools (a large district), the Charleston County School District (a large district) and the Horry County School District (a large district) reveals that all four districts are already very successful in these specific

 [e-mail this story](#)

 [discuss this issue in our forums](#)

Guest column

- **Edwin Leap:** [God uses our children to teach us some humility \(05/24/04\)](#)
- **Aron Tannenbaum:** [Don't blame Jews or Israel for Iraq war \(05/23/04\)](#)
- **Rallie Liston:** [Combining school districts won't benefit students \(05/23/04\)](#)
- **Angela O. Sherman:** [Give our youth a way to stop violence, have a purpose \(05/20/04\)](#)
- **Baxter Wynn:** [Improving public schools will benefit us all \(05/18/04\)](#)

More details

Rallie Liston, Ph.D., is superintendent of Spartanburg School District 4 (Woodruff). He served as principal of Woodruff High School for 14 years and as assistant principal and English teacher in Laurens School District 56. He can be reached at rliston@spartanburg4.org.

Top Jobs

The Greenville News

POWERED BY
careerbuilder®

Warehouse Supervisor

DRIVERS FOR TEAM OPERATIONS

LOW-BOY OPERATOR

LOCAL ROUTE DRIVER

areas (listed above) and in others as well.

RNs

All Top Jobs

Utilizing for data analysis the state-mandated INSIGHT accounting module (2002), it is

clear that a small school district, Spartanburg School District 4, where I serve as superintendent of schools, with 2,853 students and a per-pupil expenditure of \$6,433, operates as efficiently as Charleston County, a district of 41,831 students with a per-pupil expenditure of \$7,373; Greenville County, a district of 59,736 students with a per-pupil expenditure of \$6,372; and Horry County, a district of 28,466 students with a per-pupil expenditure of \$7,546.

The statistics above are supported by independent research from other sources. Data provided by the South Carolina Policy Council, a nonpartisan, tax-exempt public policy and research and education foundation, indicates funds per pupil expended when local, state and federal moneys are combined. Their data yield the following: Spartanburg District 4 with 2,853 students is \$6,832 per pupil; Greenville County with 59,736 students is \$7,798 per pupil; Charleston County with 41,831 students is \$9,255 per pupil; and Horry County with 28,466 is \$8,902 per pupil. In this instance, a smaller district is again proven more economically efficient than three larger countywide districts.

Second, the proposed legislation argues that smaller school districts cannot provide smaller class sizes, appropriate facilities, rigorous academic offerings and salaries competitive with larger countywide school districts. A thorough review of data from the state-mandated S.C. Report Card generated by the Education Oversight Committee indicates that a smaller school district does provide equivalent or greater opportunities in the aforementioned areas. (See illustration.)

Clearly, Spartanburg School District 4, a district of only 2,853 students, is financially efficient and provides students with first-class educational opportunities.

However, what the proposed legislation does not address are the other additional benefits created by smaller school districts. These smaller school districts allow local communities to shape school achievement directly through: 1) a strong sense of personalization, 2) clear, open lines of communication between the school and the surrounding community, 3) local ownership — where all board members of the district actually reside in the attendance areas of the schools they serve, 4) greater access to administrators, teachers and support staff via local markets, churches, banks, etc., 5) less bureaucracy, 6) safer schools, and 7) greater opportunities for participation in co-curricular activities based on smaller student population and multiple team opportunities.

Consolidation as a concept may warrant consideration in some areas of South Carolina; however, for the state of South Carolina to legislate it for *all* school districts without careful consideration of economic and programmatic effects would actually harm many of the students we serve.

We invite each member of our Legislature to visit Spartanburg School District 4. Come to our schools, examine our programs, our teachers, our academic achievement and our safe and enriching school climate; examine our district office and our community school board. We feel confident we will meet your approval and in doing so, solicit your support for allowing local citizenry, living in small communities, to maintain ownership of our schools, so we may continue to make all decisions in the best interest of our "customers" — the students we serve.



[news](#) | [communities](#) | [entertainment](#) | [classifieds](#) | [real estate](#) | [jobs](#) | [cars](#) | [customer](#)

services

Copyright 2003 The Greenville News. Use of this site signifies your agreement to the Terms of Service (updated 12/17/2002).





You are logged in as: msponhour@sc.rr.com · [Edit your profile](#) · [Manage your e-mail subscription](#) · [Logout](#)



Spartanburg, S.C.
May 24, 2004

Search recent stories:

Search

[Home](#)

[Subscribe to the H-J](#)

[Find A Job](#)

[Find A Car](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[Marketplace](#)

[Business Guide](#)

[Physicians Guide](#)

[News](#)

[Sports](#)

[Palmetto Recruiting](#)

[Prep Football](#)

[Weather](#)

[Obituaries](#)

[The Stroller](#)

[Recipes](#)

[Opinion](#)

[Business](#)

[Escape](#)

[Life](#)

[Photos](#)

[Horoscopes](#)

[Crosswords](#)

[Astroblobs](#)

[Flash Trivia](#)

[Subscribers](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Page Reprints](#)

[Photo Reprints](#)

[H-J Archives](#)

[About the H-J](#)

[E-mail this article](#) | [print this article](#)

Posted on May 23, 2004

The Senate should move forward on a bill against environmental crime

The S.C. Senate should cast aside the complaints of the Chamber of Commerce and proceed with a bill that allows the statewide grand jury to look into environmental crimes.

The bill would expand the authority of the grand jury, allowing it to work with the State Department of Health and Environmental Control to enforce environmental law.

Violations of such laws are often complex and difficult to investigate. If the grand jury could join these investigations, it could add its subpoena powers to the investigative tools available. That would give investigators much greater access to the people and documents necessary to determine whether crimes have been committed.

State Attorney General Henry McMaster is pushing for the bill, telling lawmakers it is needed for better enforcement of environmental laws.

But the state Chamber of Commerce opposes the bill. Chamber leaders say they are worried about a chilling effect on economic development and of overzealous prosecutions.

Featured Advertiser

**TOYOTA
OF EASLEY**

March Mayhem! We're slam dunking the competition with our best prices of the year. South Carolina's official #1 Toyota dealer!

[- View Entire Ad -](#)

More Headlines

- The Senate should move forward on a bill against environmental crime
- Food and Drug Administration and tobacco should...

Top /

Top Jobs

Sales Sales/Marketing Trainee Current highly
• [View job](#)

Cleaning Personnel for cleaning commercial
• [View job](#)

Maintenance Repair expanding East Property Owner
• [View job](#)

Miscellaneous: people to assist Call 582-
• [View job](#)

• [View all Top Jobs](#)
• [Complete job list](#)

Top Wheels

1993 ACURA Integra 5spd, red, like new roof, excellent
• [View full ad](#)

1993 Dodge Dakota cab pickup. New excel cond.
• [View full ad](#)

NIE

Staff listings

Celebrate Community

Those concerns don't seem well grounded. Any firm that declines to come to South Carolina because we plan to enforce our environmental laws is probably a company we don't want anyway. Any business that plans on being a good corporate citizen of the state should welcome strong law enforcement.

The state's prosecutors are unlikely to abuse their ability to prosecute environmental laws. And any prosecution will still have to go through the full legal process.

There is really no reason for lawmakers not to pass this bill. But it seems to be stalled, nonetheless.

A Senate subcommittee refused to vote on the bill last week when it was brought up. That means there is very little time for the bill to come out of the committee and gain approval by the full Senate. The House has already passed the bill.

This is a worthwhile bill that should be approved by the committee and by the full Senate. It would not change any environmental laws. It would simply improve the enforcement of those laws. There should be no opposition to it.

1996 Dutchmen
refrig., excel. co
680-

• [View full ad](#)

1997 CHALLENGER
Wheel, 2 Slides,
Ceiling

• [View full ad](#)

1997 Honda Accord
silver, 4 door, 1
mileage low

• [View full ad](#)

2000 Kawasaki
tires, rebuilt eng
more.

• [View full ad](#)

• [See all Top Wh](#)
• [More local aut](#)

Top Properties

GREEN ST.: Pa
appls. \$265 mo
dep.

• [View full ad](#)

N. Myrtle Beach
Special. Sat. - S
week.

• [View full ad](#)

Roebuck: rent t
1BA, den w/FP,

• [View full ad](#)

**DEVELOPERS
LIQUIDATION**
3.5 acs., lge. ha

• [View full ad](#)

Near Mary Bl
3BR/
2BA, gas ht., ce

• [View full ad](#)

Come

• [View full ad](#)

• [See all Top Pro](#)

Featured Animal

Cat: Mom went
living and I nee
home.

• [View full ad](#)

DACHSHUND PL

ready for a good
mother

• [View full ad](#)

ENGLISH BULL
8 weeks, 1st sh

• [View full ad](#)

Rottweiler Pupp
German bloodline
\$225.

• [View full ad](#)

• [See all Feature](#)

All material ©2004 Spartanburg Herald-Journal
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1657, Spartanburg, S.C., 29304-1657
The Spartanburg Herald-Journal is a member of the New York Times Regional Newspaper Group